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THE ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY NEWS.



No. 390.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MARCH 13, 1869.

[ONE PENNY.]

MISS SWAN, THE AMERICAN GIANTESS.

In the town of New Annan, in the province of Nova Scotia, British North America, was born in the year 1849 the subject of this sketch, ANNA SWAN, now 20 years of age, 7 feet 11 inches in height, 430lbs. in weight, and beyond all doubt the tallest and largest woman in the world. Her parents were of average size; her two brothers and one sister are by no means above the ordinary dimensions of humanity. The little Anna, however, soon lost all right to be so termed, her infancy was, in regard to size, indicative of the coming greatness, her childhood was another's womanhood, and now her maturity is as that of the daughters of Anak, above and beyond all her fair sisterhood. It is a curious illustration of the *great* task which, in this case, Nature set upon herself, that when Miss Swan was still at the age of a child in arms, she was almost as big as her own mother, and when still, as one would say of any ordinary being, a little girl, she was as large as her father and mother together, whilst now it is doubtful if she

would not weigh down the whole family. In short, Miss Swan, like her sable namesake, so often classically quoted, is in fact and indeed a very *rara avis in terris*.

Miss Swan has spent the greater portion of her life in her own home, but during the last two years has visited the principal cities of the United States and British North America, where her magnificent proportions have excited the utmost wonder, and her general amiability of disposition and pleasing intelligence have won for her a host of friends.

Most giantesses who have been seen in this country have appeared after a great flourish of trumpets, yet have generally turned out little more than unusually tall women, made by various deceptions to appear taller than in reality.

With Miss Swan it is otherwise. A positive and natural height of 7 feet 11 inches requires no exaggeration or deception to produce effect. Tall men walk with perfect ease below Miss Swan's arms outstretched horizontally. Tall women barely reach beyond her waist. This enormous body does not at first sight appear in its full greatness, the proportions of height

and rotundity being so well balanced. We have never seen a real giantess before with anything like so comely a figure. The finely shaped bust is surmounted by a head admirably poised upon shoulders which, in smaller proportions, many a fine made woman might envy. The face is admirable in feature and expression, bearing evident indications of a bright intellect and a general good-natured disposition. In conversation, Miss Swan is quite equal to the many trying demands made upon her by her admiring and inquiring visitors. We heard a kindly and ladylike response to each person who addressed remarks or queries to her, and in not a few cases pleasant repartees, which evinced the possession of the faculties of wit, humour, and keen observation. Her manners are gentle and refined, and the impressions produced upon ourselves when introduced to the fair Nova Scotian, were first wonder at her towering proportions; then admiration of her ladylike self-possession and deportment, her power of attracting our sympathies, her ready wit in conversation, and her general superiority as a wonder and as a lady to any giantess we had ever



MISS SWAN, THE AMERICAN GIANTESS.



seen. This will be, we feel assured, the unanimous opinion of all who feel inclined to satisfy something more than curiosity when they visit the GREATEST WOMAN IN THE WORLD.

In July, 1864, Barnum had in his museum in New York, four giants, who, according to their advertisements were each over eight feet high, and weighed all together over four thousand pounds.

On July 13th, 1865, this museum and its contents were destroyed by fire, on which occasion a giantess named Anna Swan, had a narrow escape. She was found at the head of the stairs in a swooning condition from the smoke, and was with difficulty got out of the building. She lost everything that she possessed except the clothes she wore, and in her trunk were 1,200 dollars in gold, besides a considerable sum in greenbacks, and all her clothing.

INSTALLATION OF PRESIDENT GRANT.

GENERAL GRANT took the oath of office as President of the United States, at noon, on the 4th instant, as we learnt by telegram; and the event is so pregnant of interest not only to America, but England, that we cannot but refer to it at some length in our columns. The following was the inaugural proclamation:—

Citizens.—Your suffrages have elected me to the office of President. I have taken the oath prescribed by the Constitution without mental reservation, and with the determination to do to the best of my ability all that is required of me. The responsibility of my position I feel, but I accept it without fear. The office which has been conferred upon me was unsought. On leading questions I will express my views to Congress when I think it advisable. I will interpose my veto to defeat measures to which I am opposed, but all laws will be faithfully executed, whether they meet with my approval or not. I shall have a policy to recommend, but none to enforce against the will of the people. The laws are to govern all those approving as well as those opposing them. I know no method to secure the repeal of obnoxious laws so effectual as their stringent execution.

Many questions will arise during the next four years, and it is desirable that they should be appreciated calmly and without prejudice, the greatest good of the greatest number being the object to be obtained.

This requires security for the person, for property, and for religious and political opinions throughout the country. All laws to secure this end will receive my best efforts towards their enforcement.

A great debt has been contracted in securing the Union, the payment of which and a return to a specie basis as soon as can be accomplished, without detriment to the debtor class or to the country at large, must be provided. To protect the national honour, every dollar of the Government indebtedness should be paid in gold, unless otherwise expressly stipulated at the time of being contracted. Let it be understood that there must be no repudiation of a single farthing of the public debt, and it will go far towards strengthening our credit, which ought to be the best in the world, and will ultimately enable us to replace the debt with bonds, paying less interest than we now pay. To this should be added the faithful collection of the revenue, strict accountability to the Treasury for every dollar collected, and the greatest practicable retrenchment. Who doubts the feasibility of paying every dollar with more ease than we now pay for useless luxuries?

Prostrate commerce must be rebuilt and industry encouraged.

The young men of this country have a peculiar interest in maintaining the national honour. A moment's reflection upon our future commanding influence among nations should inspire national pride. How the public debt is to be paid and how specie payment is to be resumed is not so important as that the plan should be adopted.

The united determination to do is worth more than divided counsel on the method of doing. Legislation on this subject may not now be necessary, nor even advisable, but will be so when civil law is fully restored throughout the land and trade shall have resumed its wonted channels.

It shall be my endeavour to execute the laws in good faith, to collect all the revenues assessed, and to have them properly disbursed.

I will to the best of my ability appoint only officers who will carry out this design.

Regarding foreign policy, I would deal with nations as equitably as the law requires that individuals should deal with each other. I would protect law-abiding citizens, whether of native or foreign birth, whenever their rights are jeopardized, and wherever the flag of our country floats. I would respect the rights of all nations and demand equal respect for our own. If others depart from this rule in dealing with us, we may be compelled to follow the precedent.

The proper treatment of the Indian deserves careful consideration. I will favour any course tending to their civilization, Christianization, and ultimate citizenship.

I hope for and desire the adoption of the Suffrage Amendment to the Constitution.

In conclusion, I ask for patient forbearance one towards the other throughout the land, and a determined effort on the part of every citizen to share and cement our happy union, and I ask for prayers to God on behalf of this happy consummation.

This proclamation is not of the nature of a Message, for it does not enter into politics, and is as brief as could be wished. It is like a rather homely and familiar Royal Speech, and the President allots his pithy and oracular paragraphs to the various subjects of foreign and domestic interest very much after the model of the Old World.

To the European public the most important part of the Proclamation will be that which relates to the debt of the Union. General Grant's expressions, coupled with the recent action of the Legislature on the subject, will have a good effect in maintaining American credit. The President argues that if it be well understood that not a single farthing of the public debt is to be repudiated, the national credit will be so much strengthened as to enable the Union to replace the debt with bonds paying less interest than is now paid. Nothing can be more certain than this; and we can well understand an

American looking with jealousy at the easy terms on which a country like England is able to obtain money on occasion—the consequence of honourably bearing immense burdens throughout a long series of years. Happily, the principles of the party of dishonesty have been disown by the nation, which will find, as all States which have tried it have found, that there is no resource in time of trial like a reputation for punctual payments. A paragraph which seems to refer to the questions in dispute with England concerning naturalization, and a paragraph in favour of the Suffrage Amendment, make up what remains of importance in the Proclamation. In this last matter the new President takes his stand with the Republican party, and with the most enlightened men in the Union.

In the principles General Grant enunciates throughout this document, briefly as they are expressed, we see hopes of a beneficial and honourable career. The President has been and remains unpledged in a party sense; he tells us that the office which has been conferred upon him was unsought. What is of still more importance, he is not committed to the employment of any set of men, and remains his own master and the true "Executive" of the country. Here are advantages which few Presidents have possessed, and, if they are well used by General Grant, his term of office may be the beginning of a new period of prosperity, surpassing even that which came to an end eight years ago amid the flames of civil war.

The illustration which we print on page 1020, gives an admirable view of the inaugural ceremony.

THE DRAWING ROOM.

THE FASHIONS.

This is one of the most trying periods of the year for the chronicler of fashion—there is so little novelty to record. According to *Le Follet*, the tunic camargo in lace may be considered the style of skirt which has met with the most decided success in Paris. It is worn with any dress, being caught up either at the back or sides by large bows of ribbon, and nothing is easier than to alter these bows to suit the under-skirt worn with it.

Flounces of lace are much in vogue. Upon rich materials they are laid on perfectly flat, so as to show the pattern and texture.

Very pretty tunics and scarfs are made of tulle worked with gold or satin spots, or flowers of satin.

The sash is quite as important an article of dress as it has been for some time past, and made in such varieties that it is impossible to enumerate them. The plaid or Algerine sashes are very recherché; they are usually fringed at the ends, and tied on one side of the skirt, forming a pouf.

The ceinture "watteau," forming bretelles, is very becoming, especially for young ladies; also the butterfly sash in plain satin, the bows imitating the shape of the wings of the insect.

For ordinary costume the chemise russe (the authority above quoted continues) has in some measure replaced the corsage. Many are made open in front, some are of velvet trimmed with small satin bows, and frequently they have revers of velvet or satin; sometimes the revers and little bows are coloured. Those of black velvet can be worn with any skirt; made of plaid foulard they have a pretty effect if worn with a black skirt.

For young ladies' evening dresses white tarletane is much used. A skirt, very bouillonée, may be completed by a tunic of striped silk, of a light colour, looped in puffs at the sides by bows to match, and trimmed with a silk fringe. The body made low or cut square, and a small fichu or berthe, with ends fastened at the waist, under a sash matching the colour of the tunic, and tied at the back.

Toilettes of grenadine or Chantilly gauze are also very becoming for young ladies. They should be trimmed with coloured satin, either bias pieces of the material edged with small quilling, or light plissés or ruches made entirely of the sash.

Open skirts, forming a tablier, may be made in tulle or tarletane. In this case, medium-width flounces are placed round the lower skirt, headed by a ruche or bouillonée, and the tunic, which is long, is opened at the sides of the front, and fastened by light wreaths of flowers ending in a bouquet.

The round skirt, just escaping the ground, is still made with three gored breadths in front and three straight-way at the back. They are left either without trimming or with a wide flounce, a much narrower flounce being put round the tunic. Instead of flounces, ruches, bias pieces, or cords are used, the two former being composed of the material, the latter either of silk or satin of a suitable colour.

Fringe of small pearls or beads of sky colour, or with tags and tassels of gold, blue or green flies, bees, and butterflies of prismatic hues, are ornaments fashionable for the trimming of evening dresses, as well as light mossy fringe or blonde of all colours embroidered with pearls, gold, or silver. We must not omit to mention the little satin bows edged with lace which are so much worn just now as cravates with morning costume.

Dinner dress in Louis XV. style. Robe of mauve terry velvet, trimmed round the bottom with a flounce of Chantilly lace headed by a mauve satin bias, and arranged in the front in a deep vandyke, with a satin bow at each corner. High body, opened square in front, with basque or deep tunic opened in front—all made in one piece with the body—trimmed to match the skirt, vandyked at the front and side, slightly looping up the back. Sleeves down to the elbow, trimmed with a frill of lace and a bow of satin.

Dinner dress of black satin, with a long plain train. Body opened square in front, trimmed with bright black feathers. Small vertugadin or panier at the back, gathered from the bottom to the top in three places, trimmed with feathers and lace.

Dinner dress of blue satin, with a long train, trimmed spirally with lace and bows of satin dotted about here and there. Corsage "Princesse," forming an upper skirt of velvet of the same shade, trimmed with a large flounce, looped up at each side by a large bow of blue satin. The body is half low, and

trimmed with lace. Long open sleeves, cut open to the elbow, and also trimmed with lace.

Dinner dress of ruby satin. Long train, trimmed with a flounce of black guipure and satin bows, which are placed all up the front, as well as round the skirt; a large puff at the back, trimmed to match, forming also an upper skirt behind. Body opened en cœur, trimmed with a narrow guipure.

Dinner dress of mauve poult de soie, trimmed round the bottom with white lace, headed with a ruche of satin. This skirt is looped up on each side over a mauve satin skirt, with a bouillonée flounce. Large satin bow at the back, half-way down the skirt. Body very short on the shoulders, opened nearly to the waist in front, trimmed round with lace; satin bows at the shoulders and at the waist. Lace chemisette and long sleeves.

Dinner dress of blue satin, trimmed round with flat plaiting. Over this a tunic of black satin, cut round in the shape of leaves, under which is a flounce of rich Chantilly, and looped up with bows of blue satin. Square body of black satin, with a plastron of jet.

Dinner dress of poult de soie, shot grey and citron. Tablier trimmed with bouillonées of citron-coloured satin, and bows of the same up the sides. Train of grey, edged with a flounce headed with bouillonées and bows of citron satin. The body is high at the back, and opened with revers in the front, with two small basques, making a kind of waistcoat. Sash of grey, trimmed with citron satin.

Dinner dress of light green taffetas. Long train, quite plain. Body high at the back, open square in front. Basques looped up at the side and back, trimmed round with a narrow white guipure. Tight sleeves down to the elbow, trimmed with a silk frill, edged with a narrow guipure. Sash with a large bow of silk and lace.

Dinner dress of pearl-grey faye, trained and trimmed round with sultane velvet. Body open and square in front, trimmed round, imitating a pelerine at the back, with a plissé of velvet. A similar plissé is placed on each side of the front breadth, finished off by large bows and ends of velvet. Velvet sash, tied at the back under a puff of the skirt. Crystal buttons to fasten the body.

Ball dress of white satin, with a plissé of double tulle, crossed by rouleaux of satin. Up the front of the skirt bouillonées and rouleauts of satin, forming a round tablier. Similar trimming forms a puff at the back, over a long train of white satin, edged with flounces of double tulle. A train of fuchsias is placed on the skirt and round the top of the low body.

Ball dress of pink poult de soie, covered with pink tulle, worked with silver stars. Tunic of pink satin, edged point d'Alençon. Pointed body, trimmed en fichu with bows and lace.

Ball dress for a young lady. Short dress of white tulle, having seven, nine, or eleven narrow fluted flounces bound with blue, pink, or white satin. Tunic trimmed with three or five little flounces and looped up on paniers by the end of the braces on the body. These are formed with a small plissé of satin (of the same shade as the edging of the flounces), forming a heading to two small frills of tulle; a large bow of satin fastens them at the waist at the front and back, from under which the ends of the braces hang, looping the tunic.

Ball dress of white satin, with a long train trimmed with the satin headed by a gold blonde mingled with a garland of lilies of the valley, formed of small pearl beads and gold stalks, which is carried up the sides and finished off by a bouquet of lilies and gold grass, looping up a tunic of tulle worked with gold. White satin round body, with sash tied behind under a bouquet and trail of lilies and gold blonde.

Ball dress of pink tulle, crossed by rouleaux of pink satin, and small roses. Paniers of pink tulle looped up by wreath roses.

Ball dress of white satin, very long behind, trimmed with four plaitings up the front. Court train, made with bouillonées of tulle and busses of green satin. Paniers of tulle edged with lace. Sash and bows of green satin. Wreaths of tea roses and leaves at the sides.

Ball dress of green satin, with trained skirt. Upper skirt of green tulle, looped up by large puffs of blonde, and edged by two flounces of blonde. Tunic of white blonde. Low body, with trimming of blonde.

Ball dress with under skirts of cerise of satin, with a very wide tuyante of the same, lined with white satin. Tunic of white satin, long at the front, short at the sides, and just meeting the flounce at the back, trimmed round with lace. Tablier formed of four flounces of lace up the front breadth. Large butterfly bow, lined with cerise satin, at the back, and lace short tunic at the back.

Court dress of white satin, with round skirt, trimmed up the front with four guipure flounces. Train of violet velvet, lined with white satin, trimmed with wide guipure and a thick rouleaux of violet satin. Small tablier (above the flounces across the front) made of guipure and finished off at each side with guipure and violet velvet. White satin body, trimmed with guipure.

The diadem, although still much worn, does not gain favour very decidedly, the fanion still remaining as much worn as ever. Thus, a fanion of black spotted net; a curtain of black satin, trimmed with a ruche of black lace, continuing so as to form strings, and fastened by a bow of green satin. In the front a diadem of black lace, trimmed with four large drops of cut jet. On one side a large bow of green satin ribbon, with a curled feather across the diadem.

A chapeau pouff of black lace, with boulettes of blue velvet on the pouff which are carried down as strings, edged with black lace, and fastened by a jet ornament. Across the front a diadem of velvet and lace, and at the side a blue curled feather and black aigrette.

A bonnet of blue velvet, with white aigrette, fastened in by a large bow of blue satin ribbon. Strings of blue velvet, lined with satin, and edged with white blonde fastened by a satin bow.

Another, of ruby satin, trimmed with black lace and an aigrette. Diadem of black lace and ruby satin, and strings of satin edged with lace.

A third, of white terry velvet; diadem of white curled feathers, and at the side a small bright-coloured bird. Brides of white blonde falling over the chignon, and fastened under the chin by a small bird to match that on the bonnet.

The same design in black lace, with a diadem of jet and very bright-coloured birds is equally elegant.

PRINCE ARTHUR, having completed his course at Woolwich, will shortly join the Rifle Brigade in Canada.

THE GARDEN.

FLOWER-GARDEN.

MARCH has come in with almost an April-like appearance—winds, sunshine, and light showers alternating with all the suddenness and caprice that generally mark the latter more coquettish month. That winter has not quite left us, however, we are duly reminded—as on Monday for instance, by a frosty though clear air, and a slight sprinkle, and it was very slight, of snow. While, therefore, we daily employ the fine weather, we must not presume too much in exposing tender plants out-doors.

Where deciduous flowering shrubs or trees are wanted, and have not yet been planted, they should be attended to at once. Most sorts will yet succeed, such as syringas, roses, guelder rose, honeysuckles, jessamines, common and Persian lilacs, laburnums, dwarf almond, &c.; but no time should be lost in getting them to their places. Carnations raised from layers last year, and which may not yet have been transplanted into larger pots, or the borders, &c., should now come in for a share of attention. Shift them with the ball of earth about their roots in the positions where they are to flower; taking the precaution to shield them from frosts.

Auriculas must be carefully protected from storms of hail and heavy rains, yet be kept moderately supplied with moisture. The seedlings sown in January will now be ready to transplant.

The following general instructions may be found useful at this time. Sow hardy annuals in thin patches on the borders, and a batch of each in pans in cold frames. Strike cuttings of bedding plants; put dahlia roots in a gentle heat. Autumn-struck cutting get singly into small pots. Sow tender and hardy annuals of all kinds in gentle heat, also lobelia speciosa for edgings. Deutzia scabra, weigelia rosea, Forsythia viridissima, and pelargoniums, are good plants to force this month. Fumigate cinerarias and other soft-wooded plants, if there is any appearance of green-fly.

The plants with coloured foliage enter now largely into the system of bedding-out. The cineraria maritima is silvery white; the prilla nankinensis is black; and amaranthus melancholicus is crimson. One advantage in these is that they do not change colour all the season, whereas flowers get shabby before half the summer is gone. Sow all three of these in pans, and put them in a cucumber frame in a hot-house to start them. As soon as they can be handled, prick them out in pots or pans an inch apart, and when they touch each other they ought to be shifted into single pots, where they may grow till bedding-out time. Where there are many beds or much border they will be found very useful.

Continue to plant box-edgings, roses now growing in pots, and almost all kinds of herbaceous plants. Pansies struck now, and planted out after they get rooted, instead of being starved in the cutting pot for a month or so after they are rooted, will make fine plants for flowering towards the end of summer. Seed of these plants sown soon in warmth will also flower finely in the summer and autumn. Old plants of Viola cornuta should be pulled to pieces, and then planted in a warm sheltered border, if a stock is required for planting in the flower garden. Treated this way, they will soon make nice sturdy plants. This violet is extremely useful for its soft tone of colour where it does well, but it is of little use excepting in moist and cool situations; even then it ought not to be planted very extensively as it is too capricious to depend upon. Poa trivialis argentea is of little or no use out of doors; nearly every plant out of doors last year was burnt up by July. For indoor decoration it is both useful and beautiful. This is also a very good time for looking over and getting in a fresh stock of rock plants. The soil must be prepared according to the nature of the various plants, but the great bulk prefer sandy loam, with a liberal proportion of sandstone broken up and mixed with the soil. Where any of the strong growing kinds are overstepping their bounds and smothering their less robust neighbours, they should be taken up, reduced, and planted again. Weeds of all kinds will soon be making their appearance amongst the crevices, and should be pulled out before they get too firm a hold. Plant now hardy British ferns taken up from hedgerows, if required.

PLANT HOUSES AND FRAMES.

Prune permanent subjects, such as camellias, oranges, citrons, &c., that are growing out of shape and getting unsightly. Others growing freely water occasionally with manure-water. There ought to be no difficulty in having this structure gay now if there is sufficient space in the forcing-houses to grow the plants on. Shade from very bright sunshine that would injure the freshness and beauty of the flowers. Re-arrange the plants frequently, and remove every dead flower or leaf, to give an air of cleanliness and order.

Greenhouse.—Shift and train pelargoniums, fuchsias, herbaceous calceolarias, and other soft-wooded plants. Fumigate frequently, for once let green-fly and other pests get ahead they do an immense amount of mischief, and it takes double the time and tobacco paper to get them under again. Syringa acacias, camellias, and other plants that have been cut back. Give plenty of air when it can be admitted without chilling the plants. Specimen plants intended for late blooming must be shifted into a house or temporary contrivance with a north aspect to keep them back. Sow annuals for autumn decoration. Weatherill's hybrid solanum make grand subjects for the winter if sown now and grown on. They are best planted out in a border of rich soil early in summer, and taken up and potted in September.

Frames.—Auriculas, pinks, pansies, and all other subjects wintered here, will require plenty of air and increased supplies of water, as vegetation gets more active. Potatoes and other vegetables must have plenty of air and attention with the watering-pot.

Bedding Plants.—Keep the stock plants warm, and give little air. We shall soon have bright weather, when they may be more freely ventilated, to harden the wood and check their growth. Let nothing remain in the cutting-pans after forming roots, as every day beyond the proper time is a day wasted to the injury of the plants. Cuttings put in now will bear more heat than those put in a month ago, as vegetation is more active with the advance of the season. There is plenty of time now to raise stock of verbenas, petunias, fuchsias, and lobelias, and they will bear a moist temperature of 75 deg. to advantage. Young plants that want a shift to larger pots, and which are to be stopped to make them bushy, should be stopped first, and the repotting delayed till the side-shoots begin to break.

KITCHEN GARDEN.

Plants of lettuce, cauliflower, cabbage, celery, &c., raised in heat will now be ready for pricking out. Make up a nice bed of light rich soil, in a cold frame, for their reception; give a good watering to settle the soil when first planted out, and plenty of air directly the roots begin to take hold of the fresh soil. Look after peas and beans; earth up as required, and sprinkle wood-ashes along the rows if slugs are troublesome. Get in successional crops, as advised last week. Sow, for autumn use, early White Cape, Walcheren, and Purple Cape broccoli; and Brussels sprouts, Scotch kale, savoys, and Enfield Market and Shilling's Queen cabbage. Clear off all stumps of the Brassica family to the muck-heap; for they are now impoverishing the ground, besides the unsightly appearance they present. Plant asparagus, seakale, rhubarb, artichokes of all kinds, and horseradish. Push on pots of planting, continue to sow successional crops of spinach, a little at each sowing; the New Zealand, raised in heat and planted out in good soil, will furnish a continuous supply. The ground must be prepared for carrots and onions.

Amateurs who walk abroad among the market gardens, may generally take a lesson for their own guidance. They will see now large quantities of cauliflower planted in the open ground, the same of lettuces; but this only applies to the south-west side of London. On the north-east side they will not venture till towards the end of the month. The sowing of broadbeans and peas for succession must depend on our wants. The early sowings are up and rapidly growing, and one of the rules of succession is to sow more as soon as the others are through the ground. However, thousands whose grounds are limited, have only one sowing of everything. We should now be preparing the ground for carrots, parsnips, and beetroot, by trenching two spits deep, and well dressing it. It is a good plan to sow half the crop first and the other half a fortnight later; but they may all be sown at the end of the month. In these crops much depends on the preparation of the ground.

HOME AND DOMESTIC.

A TELEGRAM from Munich states that King Louis II. of Bavaria has been for some days confined to his bed by violent neuralgic pains in the right leg, at the same spot in which he suffered last year from a severe sprain.

THE LATE MR. ERNEST JONES.—A meeting in memory of the late Mr. Ernest Jones will be held in Trafalgar-square on Good Friday, March 26, at five o'clock, p.m. Many branches of the Reform League will be present.

MR. WALKER, the senior partner of the firm of Messrs. Peter Walker and Son, brewers, has presented to the mayor and corporation of Warrington £1,000, to be expended at their discretion for the benefit of the town.

THE foundation of a new chapel at Taylor-hill, near Huddersfield, was laid a few days ago. The next morning it was found that the stone had been moved and the coins deposited there stoned.

HER MAJESTY has forwarded a donation of £150 to the British and Colonial Emigration fund, for the relief, by emigration to British colonies, of the distress existing among unemployed workmen.

GENERAL SIR ARTHUR BENJAMIN CLIFTON died at Brighton on Monday. He was the son of Sir Gervase Clifton, Bart., and was born in 1772. He entered the army in 1794, and was one of the few officers remaining of those who served in the Peninsular campaigns and at Waterloo.

FEMALE EMIGRATION.—Miss Rye (says the *Liverpool Courier*) intends going out again from that port to Canada at the end of May with another party of young women. Miss Rye, by her past successes, has proved that the women, once transported to our colonies, can obtain immediate and satisfactory employment.

SIR MOSES MONTEFIORE, Bart., is now returning from Italy to England. He was detained at Pisa a few weeks by illness, when he was attended by Dr. Canham. The worthy baronet, who is now nearly 90 years of age, has fortunately recovered, and has passed through Nice on the journey home, and may be expected in England on or after the 15th of this month.

THE outcry raised against the Government on the ground of their having discharged clerks and workmen, who, trusting to what has always been the case, believed that they held situations for life, has perhaps not been without good effect. The men discharged at Woolwich are to be employed in constructing Captain Moncrieff's apparatus for mounting heavy artillery just adopted by the Government.

THE REV. A. KAY writes in the papers pleading the cause of the last of the "old Charlies," "a veritable watchman of bygone days, who is now in his seventy-fifth year. His watch-box is in the Brixton-road, and every night, year in and year out, the old man betakes himself to his post and perambulates the neighbourhood, raising the ancient cry 'Past three and a cloudy morning,' or whatever the hour and aspect of the weather may be." He is in very straitened circumstances.

THE EDUCATION OF PAUPER CHILDREN.—Lord Leigh, at the Warwick board of guardians on Saturday, introduced his proposal for establishing a central union school for the permanent pauper children of that county provided the other unions in Warwickshire concur in the scheme. His Lordship mentioned that it would be conducive to economy and efficiency in the training of children. The result of the decision will be an application to the boards of the various unions in the county asking them to co-operate.

BREACHES OF PROMISE AND SUITS FOR DIVORCE.—The text of a bill has been published which has for its object the further amendment of the law of evidence. It simply provides that plaintiffs and defendants in actions for breaches of promise of marriage, and petitioners and respondents in suits for divorce, "shall be competent and compellable to give evidence" in such proceedings. The bill is endorsed by Mr. Denman, Mr. Locke, and Mr. Locke.

THE VELOCIPEDe IN LIVERPOOL.—The introduction of the velocipede into Liverpool, though only of a recent date, is rapidly developing itself, and on Saturday last a very exciting eight mile race, for a prize of a silver cup, came off, the contestants being members of the Liverpool Velocipede Club. The race was gained by Mr. Browne, who rode a much larger velocipede than the other competitors. The distance traversed was a little over eight miles, which was got over in 44 minutes.

POST-OFFICE NOTICE.—Letters posted in pillar letter boxes in London during the night or on Sunday (according to a notice just issued by the Postmaster-General) are included in the morning mails from London, and in the first morning delivery in London; but letters posted at receiving offices cannot be so included, because no early morning collections or Sunday collections can be made from such offices. In order to prevent letters being delayed through their being posted at receiving offices, it is intended that the letter boxes at such offices shall be closed during the night, from 9 p.m. till 8 a.m., and during the whole of Sunday.

MR. ALEXANDER THOM, of Dublin, her Majesty's official printer and publisher, has sent to the trustees of the Magee College, Londonderry, a donation of £100, of which sum £80 is to be applied to general purposes, and the remaining £20 to be taken as the first instalment of an exhibition of £20 per annum payable for six years, and to be periodically awarded to the most deserving student in the third year of his undergraduate course in the college. Mr. Thom is a previous contributor of £500 to the Queen's colleges for prizes and exhibitions.

NOTWITHSTANDING the energetic exertions of the police during the last few months to put down prize fights, and the success which has attended those exertions, another fight is announced. It is to take place on Tuesday, the 6th of April, between two men named Miller and Brown. Some "circuit" is generally fixed on such occasions, but in this case the locale indicated is "England," by which movement it is hoped that the vigilance of the police may be baffled. Miller and Brown are unknown to fame.

LAMPLough's PYRETIC SALINE.—When paying a visit to our old friend Mr. Lamplough, of Holborn, the inventor of the Pyretic Saline, we saw upon his desk a letter from the eminent physician Dr. James Williams, of Merton. We have great pleasure, knowing the value of the Saline, in giving an extract from the letter:—"Send three large bottles of the *Invaluable Saline*. I find nothing to equal it in general practice as an effervescing saline, in all febrile and bilious affections. Truly yours, JAMES WILLIAMS, M.D."

THE bill introduced by Mr. Sykes for the preservation of seabirds has been printed. It provides that any person who shall kill, or wound, or capture, or use any boat, weapon, net, or other instrument for the purpose of killing seabirds between the 1st of May and the 1st of August, shall be liable on conviction to a penalty of not more than £1 and costs. The act is not, however, to extend to seabirds killed or taken *bonsa* for the purpose of food. All offences mentioned in the Act committed within the Admiralty jurisdiction are to be held as committed on land in England, but the Act is only to apply to Great Britain.

"THE Newbury Highwayman," whose exploits in that neighbourhood caused so much sensation in September last, where under the title "Captain Hawk," with black crape over his face and pistol in hand, he called upon those whom he met on the highway to "stand and deliver," has been sentenced to six months' imprisonment. He is only eighteen years of age, and had been induced to play the pranks to which he resorted by reading sensational novels, in which highway robbery is invested with a halo of romance. Six months in Reading Gaol and a different description of reading will, it is to be hoped, induce more wholesome reflection.

AN account of the public income and expenditure for the years ended September 30th, 1865, and December 31st, 1861, has been published in a parliamentary paper. For the year ended September 30th the total income amounted to £70,307,561 16s. 1d., and the total expenditure was £72,981,985 18s. 1d., showing an excess of total expenditure over income of £2,674,425 1s. 2d. For the year ended December 31st the deficit is nearly as large, the total income having been £71,160,677 12s. 8d., while the total expenditure reached £74,052,280 5s. 5d., showing an excess of expenditure over income amounting to £2,221,602 12s. 9d.

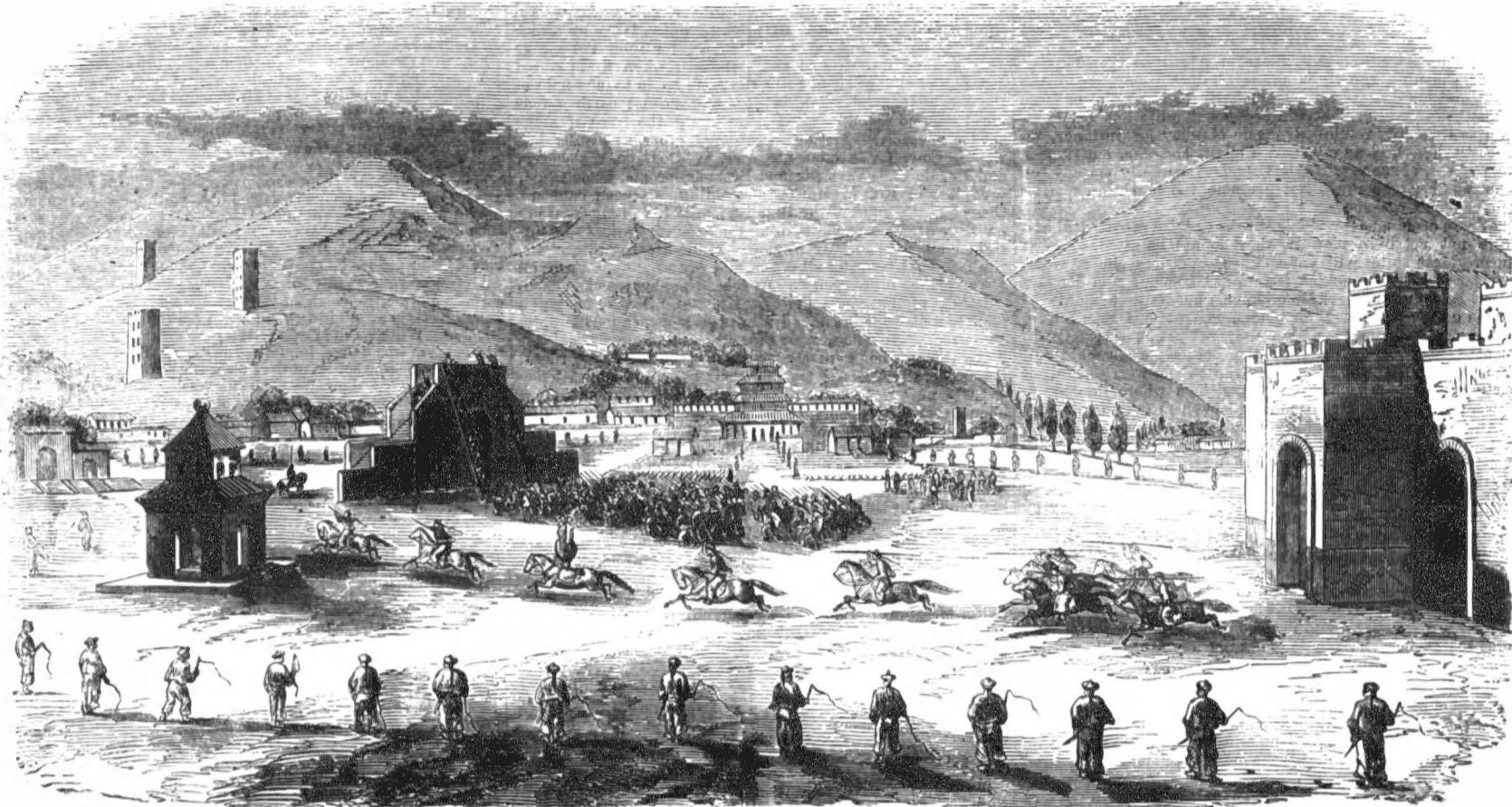
MR. M'CALL, an importer of Australian beef and mutton, gave a dinner the other day to 200 gentlemen, at which the dishes were prepared from his own imported meats. In this way he has contrived to inform many persons not before aware of the fact that we are gradually beginning to consume such articles. We now import one million of pounds of beef—and a much less quantity of mutton—but the demand is increasing. The beef or mutton is inclosed in hermetically sealed tins, and sells at 7s. a pound—which, as it is without bone, is equivalent to 5s. a pound. For a time it was only to be had at some out-of-the-way wholesale places of business in the city, known only to eating-houses and hotel-keepers; but now a shop is opened in the Strand, where it may be seen by the general public and be fairly tested.

THE COURT OF CHANCERY AND ITS FUNDS.—Returns just issued show that in the year ending October 1st last, the total payments from the "suitors' fund" of the Court of Chancery were £51,553 3s., and the sale of stock (to raise £208,000, pursuant to the "Courts of Justice Building Act, 1865") £222,608. The surplus interest carried over to the "suitors' fee fund account" was £53,468 13s. 6d., and the balance on the 1st of October, 1868, was £16,026 19s. 3d. cash, and £3,511,000 0s. 6d. stock. The total payments from the "suitors' fee fund account" in the year ending November 25th, 1868, were £164,231 10s. 3d., and the balance left after deducting that amount from the total receipts was £181,988 15s. 6d.

CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION.—The Board of Conciliation and Arbitration, recently established in the Staffordshire Potteries have recognised the importance of having a definite settlement of a question which has for a long period been a source of agitation and difficulty, namely, whether the men should be paid for ware before it is fired, or only for what proves to be good after the process of firing. The board have resolved that each section should bring the question before its constituents, and that a set of rules and regulations should be prepared, and a system adopted which would be the means of putting an end to the bickering so long kept up in connection with the trade of the district. The board consists of manufacturers and workmen, with a stipendiary magistrate for umpire, whose decision is final. More than one dispute has been settled by reference to the board since it came into existence, and but for which there would have, in one instance at least, been a strike and a serious stoppage of trade.

HER MAJESTY the Queen held the first Levee of the season on Friday, last week. Since the last Levee—held in the summer of last year—a new Parliament has been elected, new sheriffs for the various counties have been nominated, and various other changes have been made which have constituted a large number of new claimants for "presentation," and although three Levees are announced to be held within a period of less than a month, the Lord Chamberlain has been deluged with applications from persons who were anxious to obtain presentations for the first. Another point in connection with this the first Levee of 1869 was the changed attire in which many of the gentlemen appeared. Military and naval men wore, of course, the uniforms to which their rank in the service entitled them; Judges wore their ermine and other robes; Bishops the episcopal habit; and Her Majesty's Ministers the Windsor uniform; but ordinary civilians appeared for the most part in the new regulation dresses. The dresses consisted for the most part of dark-coloured dress-coats, single-breasted, with straight collar, or gold embroidered collar, cuffs, and pocket-flaps, gilt buttons, white waistcoat without collar, dark-coloured cloth trousers of the same colour as the coat, narrow gold lace stripe on the sides, black cocked hat, with gold lace loop or button; sword similar to that worn with the civil uniform, white neckcloth; or black silk velvet dress coat of the same shape as described above, with gilt, steel, or plain buttons, white waistcoat, or black silk velvet without collar, with similar buttons, but of smaller size, black silk velvet trousers, black cocked hat, with gilt or steel loop and button, gilt or steel handled sword, with silk shoulderbelt, white neckcloth.

LUXURIOUS AND BEAUTIFUL HAIR.—MRS. S. ALLEN'S WORLD'S HAIR RESTORER never fails to quickly restore *Grey or Faded Hair* to its natural colour and beauty. It stops the hair from falling off. It prevents baldness. It promotes luxuriant growth; it causes the hair to grow thick and strong. It removes all dandruff. It contains neither oil nor dye. In large Bottles—Price Six Shillings. Sold by Chemists and Perfumers. Depot, 266, NEW BOLBORN, LONDON.



MILITARY EXERCISE IN CHINA.—SKIRMISHING AND SCALING.

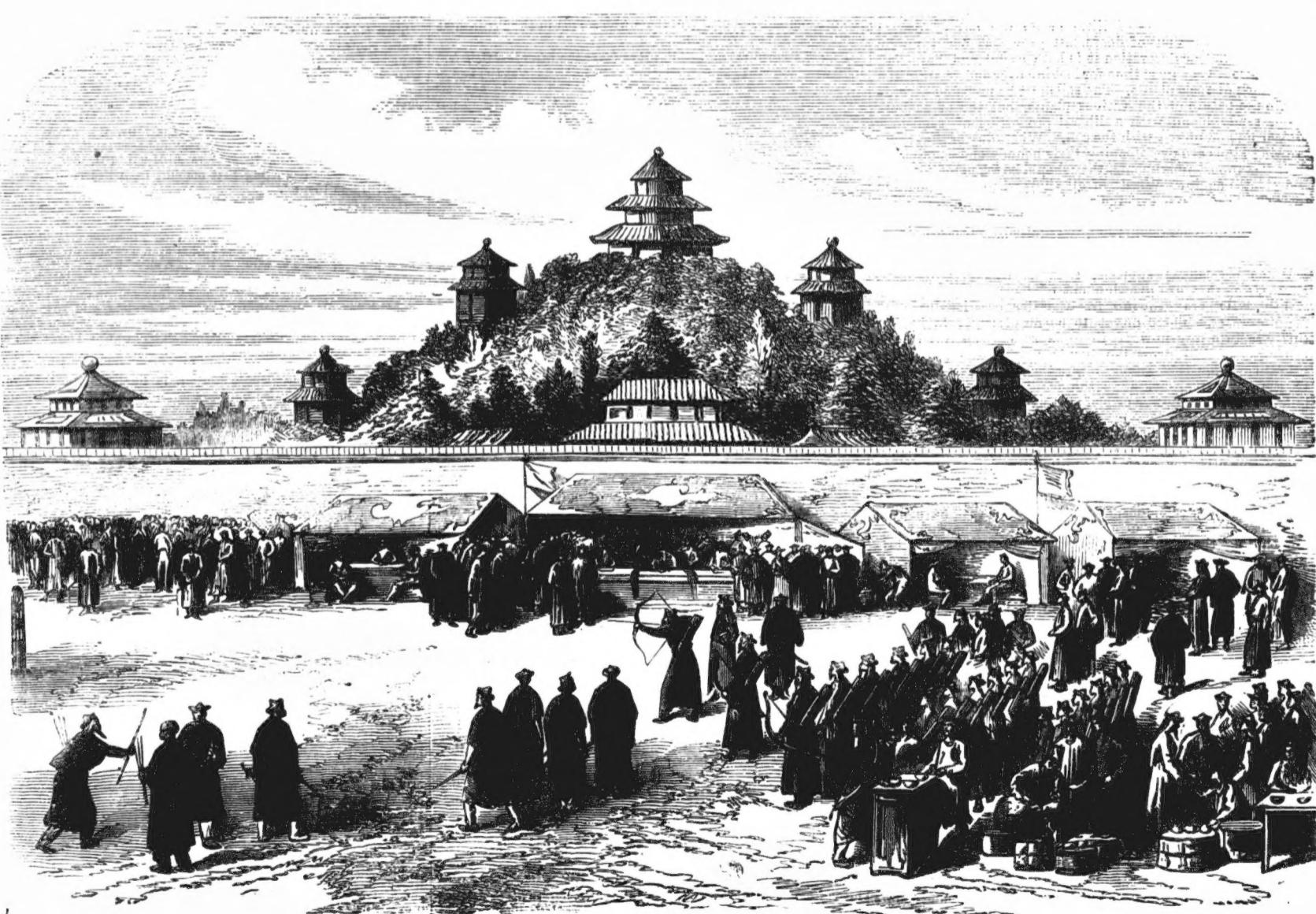
MILITARY SERVICE IN CHINA.

CHINESE soldiers undergo far more training for their respective services than we Europeans generally imagine. Prior to being accepted into the military service, the Chinaman is thoroughly examined as to his efficiency in handling the customary weapons of the country, the most prominent of these being the skilful use of the bow and arrow. From a very early age lads are taught to accustom themselves to this primitive and once notable arm of the ancient Briton; and when they deem themselves proficient, they are taken on trial as recruits for the Chinese military service.

Before regularly admitted, they must hit the target, at fifty paces distant, three consecutive times; and in order to obtain the required force to send the arrow with swiftness to its destination, the recruits are trained to support a weight, between eighty and one hundred pounds, with outstretched arms. This is to strengthen their muscles. The bows are made of wood cased in horn; the arrows are of Indian cane feathered with Mongolian eagle's feathers. The weight, or pull of the bow averages from seventy to one hundred pounds; and those who can pull the strongest bow with precision are the picked men. Another branch of the service is the sword and spearmen. All, however, are trained to scaling, as we see them exercising in our illustration. The cavalry are

principally armed with spears, and these are exercised at the target at full gallop. The ground is kept by a numerous body of servitors who are armed with whips.

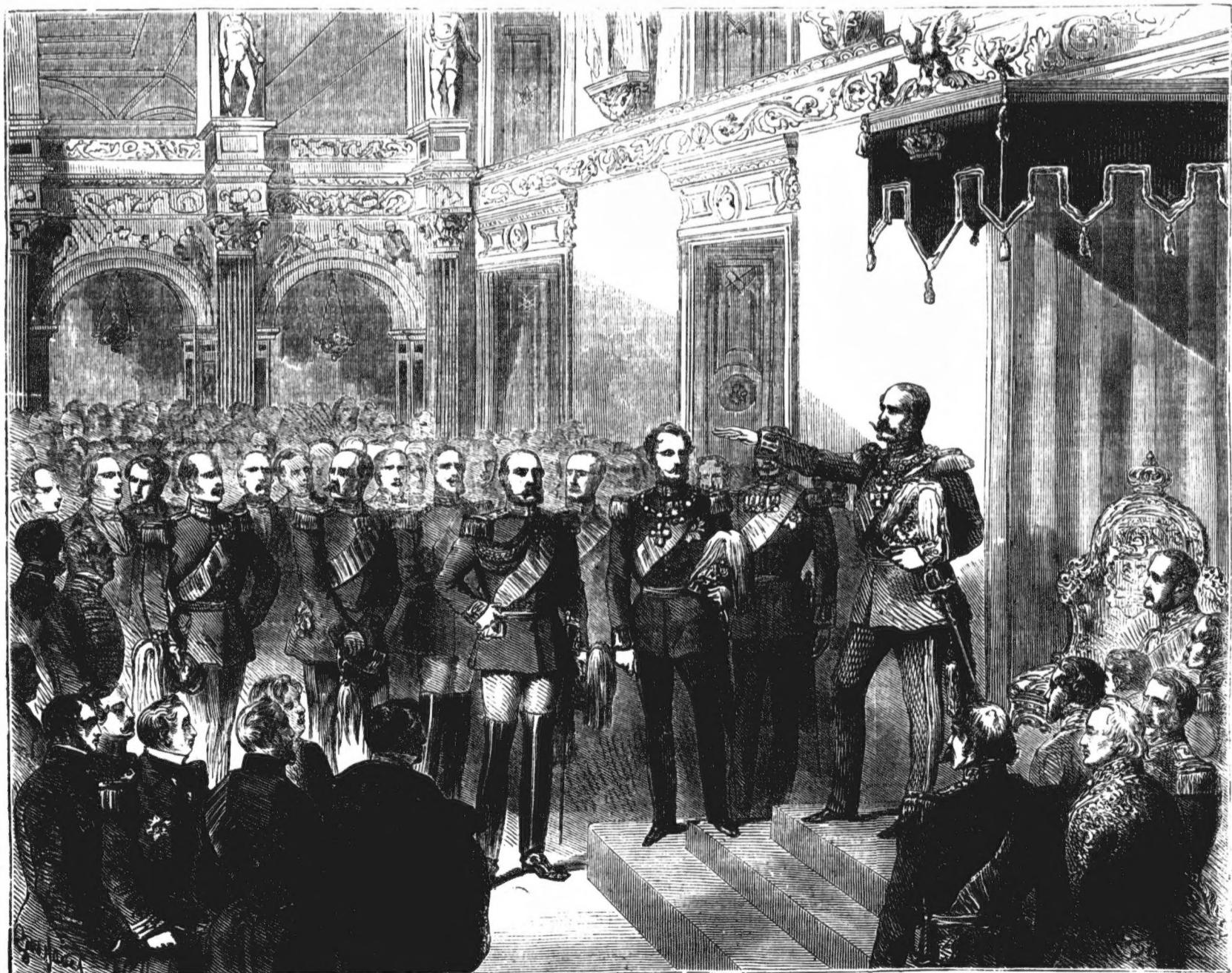
"While on duty in India, I was suffering for months with sore throat, and though I consulted the best physicians, could get no relief until I tried Davis's Pain Killer, which in three weeks completely cured me. I have often given it for headaches, indigestion, neuralgia, rheumatism, spasms, diarrhoea, and cholera, and always successfully.—STEPHEN MILES, 43, Gloucester-st., Devonport, July 1, 1867."—To P. D. & Son."



MILITARY EXERCISE IN CHINA.—PRACTISING WITH THE BOW.



SEVERE STORMS ALONG THE COAST.—(SEE PAGE 1015.)



THE KING OF RUSSIA DELIVERING HIS SPEECH FROM THE THRONE.—(SEE PAGE 1015.)

THEATRES.

THEATRE ROYAL DRURY LANE.

Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. B. Chatterton.
Every Evening, at 7. THE GIRLS OF THE PERIOD. At a quarter to eight. HENRY IV (First Part). Falstaff, Mr. Phelps; Hotspur, Mr. Charles Dillon; Messrs. Ryder, Sinclair, Wilson, Barrett, Irving, Cumming, M'Intyre, Johnstone, Charles, Nelson; Miss Stuart, Mrs. Vandenhoff. And a grand Ballet of Action, entitled BEDA.

THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET.

Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. B. Buckstone.
Every Evening, at 7, RAISING THE WIND. After which, HOME. Messrs. Sothern, Chippendale, Meeds, Cavendish, Hill, &c. To conclude with RURAL FELICITY; Messrs. Buckstone, Kendal, Rogers, Clarke, &c.; Mesdames Chippendale, Fitzwilliam, Laws, Gwynne, Wright, &c.

THEATRE ROYAL, ADELPHI.

Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. B. Webster.
Every Evening, at 7, A DAY'S FISHING; Mr. G. Belmore, C. H. Stevenson; Mrs. Leigh Murray, Miss Lennox Grey, &c. At 7.45, THE DEAD HEART. Messrs. Benjamin Webster, A. Stirling, G. Belmore, R. Phillips, Ashley, Stuart; Mrs. Alfred Mellon, Miss Lennox Grey, &c.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE.

Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Vining.
Every Evening, at 7, THE SECRET. After which, at a quarter to eight, MARIE ANTOINETTE; Messrs. William Rignold, Dominic Murray, J. G. Shore, D. Lesson, and C. Harcourt; Meeds. Lydia Howard and Beatrice. Concluding with a CUP OF TEA: Madlle. Beatrice.

LYCEUM THEATRE.

Lessee, Mr. E. T. Smith.
Every Evening, at 7, the Farce TWENTY MINUTES WITH A TIGER; Mr. Coghlan and Miss Marion. At a quarter to eight, LIFE FOR LIFE; Messrs. Jordan, Coghlan, and Hermann Venz; and Miss Neilson. To conclude with the grand Ballet, THE HOME OF THE FAIRIES.

ROYAL OLYMPIC THEATRE.

This Evening, at 7, PAPER WINGS. Messrs. H. Neville, E. Atkins, J. G. Taylor, H. Cooper, H. Vaughan, Smithson, and H. Wigan; Meeds. N. Harris, St. Henry, Schavery, and Furtado. After which, THE YELLOW PASSPORT. Messrs. Neville, H. Neville, J. G. Taylor, G. Vincent, H. Vaughan, E. Atkins, and H. Wigan; Meeds. Caulfield, Schavery, and Furtado.

GLOBE THEATRE ROYAL.

Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sefton Parry.
Every Evening, at 7, A HAPPY FAMILY. At 7.30, CYRIL'S SUCCESS. BROWN AND THE BRAHMINS. Messrs. E. Marshall, Warner, Vernon, Fisher, J. Clarke, &c.; Mesdames C. Thorne, Henrade, Brennan.

ROYAL STRAND THEATRE.

Sole Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. Swanborough.
Every Evening, at 7, A WIDOW HUNT. Messrs. Clarke, Bedford, Joyce; Mesdames Button, Maitland. THE FIELD OF THE CLOTH OF GOLD. Messrs. Thorne, James, Robson; Mrs. Goodall. HUE AND DYE. Mr. Thorne; Miss Newton.

PRINCE OF WALES'S ROYAL THEATRE.

Under the Management of Miss Marie Wilton.
Every Evening, at 8, SCHOOL. Messrs. Hare, Montague, Addison, &c.; Mrs. Buckingham White and Miss Marie Wilton. Also A WINNING HAZARD, and INTRIGUE. Mr. Montgomery; Misses A. and B. Wilton.

GAIETY THEATRE, STRAND.

Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Hollingshead.
Every Evening, at 7, THE TWO HARLEQUINS. Mr. Creling; Miss C. Loseby. At 7.45, ON THE CARDS. Mr. Alfred Wigan, M. Stuart; Miss M. Robertson. ROBERT LE DIABLE. Misses E. Farren, Loseby, Hastings. Two ballets. Principal dancer, Mdlle. Bossi.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, Long-acre.

Manager, Mr. W. H. Liston.
Every Evening, at 7, A RACE FOR A DINNER; Mr. John Clayton. At 7.45, NOT GUILTY; Messrs. J. L. Toole, S. Emery, H. Irving, W. H. Stephens, L. Brough, J. Clayton, H. Mellon, Seyton, and Terrott; Misses Henrietta Hudson and Everard. To conclude with the BIRTHPLACE OF PODGERS, Mr. Toole.

THEATRE ROYAL, HOLBORN.

Under the Management of Miss Fanny Josephs.
Every Evening, at 7, FETTERED. Messrs. Cowper, Neville, Drew, Parcell, Brunton, F. Hughes, Arthur Bartleman, and George Honey; Mesdames Lydia Foote, Marlboro, Turner, Hodges, and Fanny Josephs. LUCRETIA BORGIA, M.D.; Miss Fanny Josephs and Mr. George Honey. AUNT CHARLOTTE'S MAID.

ROYALTY THEATRE.

Under the Management of Miss M. Oliver.
Every Evening, at 7.30, A LOVING CUP. Messrs. Dewar, Day, Danvers; Mesdames Thompson and Kate Bishop. At 9, CLAUDE DUVAL. Messrs. Dewar, Danvers, Day; Miss Oliver, &c. To conclude with FAMILY JARS.

ROYAL SURREY THEATRE.

Every Evening, THE HOME WRECK. Richard Tressider, Mr. Cresswick; Mr. E. F. Edgar, Mr. Walter Crosbie, Mr. Voltaire; Mr. Mat. Robson; Miss G. Pauncefot, Miss E. Lenard. And JACK AND JILL; Mr. W. Serle, Mat. Robson; Miss E. Webster, Miss A. Dodd, Miss E. Lenard. Clown, Harry Crouse; Harlequin, Sylvaine; Pantaloons, Gallini; Watteau Harlequin and Columbine, the Sisters Duvall.

ROYAL AMPHITHEATRE AND CIRCUS, HOLEBORN.
Every evening, at half-past seven, OSCAR CARRE'S PERFORMING HORSES. The world-renowned Orra on the Flying Trapeze. The matchless SCENES IN THE ARENA. Including Messrs. A. Bradbury, Carré, Salomonsky, Adolphe Carré, and M. Montero, Salomonsky, Amalia, Schwartz, and Kremser.

ST. GEORGE'S THEATRE, REGENT-STREET.
Every afternoon at 3, every night at 8, ROYAL and ORIGINAL CHRISTY'S MINSTRELS' ETHIOPIAN ENTERTAINMENT; and the Burlesque Extravaganza, THE VERY GRAND DUTCH-S.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—Miscellaneous Entertainment. Open at Ten ST. JAMES'S HALL.—Christy's Minstrels. Eight. FOOLYTECHNIC.—Miscellaneous Entertainment, &c. Open from Twelve till Five and from Seven till Ten.

MADAME TUSSAUD'S EXHIBITION.—Open from Eleven till dusk, and from Seven till Ten.
ROYAL ALHAMBRA.—Miscellaneous Entertainment. Eight.
ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, Regent's Park.—Open daily.

THE SIGHTS OF LONDON.

1.—FREE.
British Museum; Chelsea Hospital; Courts of Law and Justice; Docks; Dulwich Gallery; East India Museum, Fife House, Whitehall; Greenwich Hospital; Hampton Court Palace; Houses of Parliament; Kew Botanic Gardens and Pleasure Grounds. Museum of Economic Geology, Jermyn-street; National Gallery; National Portrait Gallery; Patent Museum, adjoining the South Kensington Museum; Soane's Museum, Lincoln's-inn-fields; Society of Arts' Exhibitions of Inventions (in the spring of every year); St. Paul's Cathedral; Westminster Abbey; Westminster Hall; Windsor Castle; Woolwich Dockyard and Repository.

2.—BY INTRODUCTION.

Antiquarian Society's Museum, Somerset House; Armourers' Museum, 81, Coleman-street; Asiatic Society's Museum, 5, New Burlington-street; Bank of England Museum (collection of coins); Botanical Society's Gardens and Museum, Regent's-park; College of Surgeons' Museum, Lincoln's-inn-fields; Guildhall Museum (old London antiquities); Linnean Society's Museum, Burlington House; Mint (process of coining), Tower-hill; Naval Museum, South Kensington; Royal Institution Museum, Albemarle-street; Trinity House Museum, Tower-hill; United Service Museum, Scotland-yard; Woolwich Arsenal.

ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY NEWS.
PRICE ONE PENNY.

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NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All letters to be addressed to the Editor, care of Judd and Glass, St. Andrew's Hill, Doctors' Commons.

The Illustrated Weekly News
AND LONDON HERALD.

(REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.)

SATURDAY, MARCH 13, 1869.

THE NEW PRESIDENT OF AMERICA.

GENERAL GRANT's accession to the Presidency is regarded with confidence, and yet with curiosity, by his countrymen. Every one believes he will make a good President, and yet is anxious to know what he will do. His past achievements procure for him public favour, his reserve and the neutral position which it is asserted he holds in politics make men of each party curious to see how soon the possession of office will force him to declare himself. In his political action he has a vantage ground which we in this country hardly sufficiently appreciate. He is a soldier—a General not only of American, but of European reputation. Millions of people are proud to have a Chief Magistrate who is recognised by all the world as a distinguished man. Readers of American history know the extraordinary influence which military heroes have held over the minds of their countrymen, even when their exploits have had but little celebrity beyond the limits of the Union. Besides the "Father of his Country," there have been three soldiers elected Presidents, chiefly upon the strength of their military reputation. Andrew Jackson ruled for eight years with a vigour of self-will that would have been tolerated in no one but the victor at New Orleans. His popularity overwhelmed opposition, even when the prudent were most startled by his caprices. General Harrison and General Taylor, who both died in office, owed their elevation to their military exploits. The choice of the former as a candidate for the Presidency is one of the most characteristic events in American political history. He had borne a part in the war of 1812, and repulsed the British invaders who had entered from Canada. An Indian chief, named Tecumseh, had been killed by a ball from his pistol; but, being a man of moderate abilities, he retired into private life, and his straitened circumstances compelled him to accept the office of clerk of a County Court. In this humble position he was found when his party wanted a candidate in anticipation of the close of Mr. Van Buren's term of office. The success of General Jackson suggested a military man, and General Harrison was taken from his farm and desk and made President over the heads of Webster and Clay on the strength of a successful border campaign eighteen years before.

Without being prepared to condemn these provisions as too harsh and arbitrary, it is easy to imagine predicaments in which a man harbouring no felonious intent might be caught trespassing within some area, "garden orchard, pleasure-ground, or nursery-ground without being able to account to the satisfaction of the justices or magistrate before whom he is brought for his being found on such premises." It is true that more than ordinary circumspection may properly be required of persons twice convicted and placed on what is known at college as "double probation." It may be right and expedient that bad characters should be liable to apprehension on slighter grounds of suspicion than their neighbours, but we are not equally sure that they should be liable to conviction on flimsier evidence. Probably this is not intended by the framers of the Bill, but such expressions as "reasonable grounds for believing" and "accounting to the satisfaction of the justices" are rather suggestive of a discretion foreign to our criminal law.

THE ABYSSINIAN LITTLE BILL.

The House of Commons a few nights since had another lesson on the cost of glory. Nothing could have been more magnificent than the triumph of the nation last April. An expeditionary force, directed by British intellect, and led by British valour, and composed in itself of motley bands of English soldiers marching in brotherly alliance with dusky Asiatics, had penetrated into an unknown land to redeem the emissaries of the Queen held captive by a despot who acknowledged no obligation but his own lawless will. They came—the white men of the North and the children of the East—and, advancing with terrible precision to their goal, freed the prisoners from their captivity, while the tyrant, beaten and despairing, sought an escape from the unknown future he dreaded in self-inflicted death. Then, to the astonishment of the world, the victorious army quietly marched back again, leaving the kingdom they had invaded and overrun without seeking to retain a rood of the land which had witnessed their triumph. There had been nothing like it in the history of the world since history began. The expedition was complete and immaculate. Thinking over its course again, our heads once more touch the stars. But, alas! the prose of commonplace supervenes. On the one side of the medal we read of the chivalrous pursuit of unselfish duty, on the other a bloated income-tax. The obverse shows the names of Hassam, Cameron, Flad, Stern, Prideaux, and the rest, redeemed from apparently hopeless misery; on the reverse are eight millions, or more nearly nine millions, or—for the inscription is not yet permanently graven, it may be ten millions of money. This is the modern cost of glory. Steel Armstrongs are instruments of precision, and steam transports go whithersoever the will of the commander wishes over the waters which overwhelmed Pharaoh; but if we save the expenditure of men on the uplands of Abyssinia and on the shores of the Red Sea, we must impose a vast drought on human labour and therefore on human life in the United Kingdom.

LEGISLATION FOR CRIMINALS.

The eminently practical debate in the House of Lords on the Habitual Criminals Bill has effectually brought out the distinctive features of this measure. Of the five parts into which it is divided, that which has justly met with most general approbation is the stringent enactment against the receivers of stolen goods. The old saying that if there were no receivers there could be no thieves has passed into a common form in sentencing criminals of this class, yet it has never been hitherto adopted as a principle of legislation. The Bill provides that, when any one previous convicted of an offence punishable by imprisonment shall be found in possession of stolen goods, the burden of proving that he came by them honestly shall henceforth be thrown upon him. The effect of this rule will, of course, be that a marine store dealer who buys articles of all sorts from all comers will have to conduct his business with great caution after once getting into trouble. In some cases it will doubtless work great hardship, for the evidence of innocence may not be always forthcoming even where the stolen goods have been purchased in good faith and from no suspicious quarter. The suggestion of Lord Romilly, that a man placed at such a disadvantage should be allowed to give evidence on oath in his own defence, certainly deserves consideration; but, however great the hardship may be, it can only be felt by those who have already brought themselves within the reach of the criminal law, and it is an essential object of the Bill to introduce this additional safeguard against the commission of crime. A like policy governs the second part, which deals specifically with "habitual criminals"; but here the proposed mode of application is somewhat different. A person twice convicted of felony is to be subjected for seven years to police supervision. During this period he is made liable to be arrested at any time, on mere suspicion and without warrant, by a single police-constable, under various circumstances described in Section 10, and taken before a stipendiary magistrate or two justices of the peace. If the Bench find reasonable grounds for believing that he is getting his living by dishonest means, or that he was even waiting for an opportunity to commit a crime, or if he fail to account to their satisfaction for his presence on the premises of some other person, he may be imprisoned for a year.

Without being prepared to condemn these provisions as too harsh and arbitrary, it is easy to imagine predicaments in which a man harbouring no felonious intent might be caught trespassing within some area, "garden orchard, pleasure-ground, or nursery-ground without being able to account to the satisfaction of the justices or magistrate before whom he is brought for his being found on such premises." It is true that more than ordinary circumspection may properly be required of persons twice convicted and placed on what is known at college as "double probation." It may be right and expedient that bad characters should be liable to apprehension on slighter grounds of suspicion than their neighbours, but we are not equally sure that they should be liable to conviction on flimsier evidence. Probably this is not intended by the framers of the Bill, but such expressions as "reasonable grounds for believing" and "accounting to the satisfaction of the justices" are rather suggestive of a discretion foreign to our criminal law.

An early train for the accommodation of working men now runs daily from Dalston station at 5.30 a.m., arriving at Broad-street at 5.40. This is a great boon to the men employed at Billingsgate and Leadenhall-markets.

PARLIAMENTARY.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

In the House of Commons on Wednesday last week the second reading of the Sunday Trading Bill was moved by Mr. T. HUGHES, who observed that the object was not to obtain the unconditional repeal of the Act of Charles II., but to prevent the Sunday trading on the large scale now carried on in certain portions of the metropolis and elsewhere during the hours of Divine service. The bill proposed to allow the scale of all perishable provisions up till nine o'clock in the morning, and cooked food and other articles up till ten o'clock, but to prohibit the sale of all commodities whatever between the hours of 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Mr. P. TAYLOR moved that the bill be read a second time that day six months, a proposition which was supported by Dr. BRADY, and opposed by Mr. MACFIE and also by Mr. AYTON, the latter representing the views of the Home Secretary, who thought that some legislation on the subject was necessary, and that the better course would be to refer the bill to a select committee.

The amendment was then withdrawn, and the bill was read a second time and ordered to be referred accordingly.

Mr. FAWCETT moved the second reading of the Election Expenses Bill, the object of which he explained was to throw the cost of elections upon local rates instead of upon the candidates.

This bill was lost after some discussion. On Thursday Mr. G. HARDY gave notice, on behalf of Mr. Disraeli, that the right hon. gentleman intended to move that the second reading of the Irish Church Bill be postponed for six months.

Mr. MOWBRAY also gave notice of his intention to move the rejection of the Oxford and Cambridge Tests Abolition Bill.

The House having gone into Committee, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in moving a vote of credit for £3,600,000 on account of the Abyssinian Expedition, stated that the Government had no further official information since the telegraph message of the 17th December last as to the cost of the war, and that the application now made was based upon the rough accounts sent over by Mr. Turner, the gentleman deputed by the Treasury to proceed to India to superintend the expenditure. The payments actually made on account of the expedition amounted to £8,763,000. Of this sum £5,000,000 had been already found, leaving a balance of £3,600,000; but he would ask the House not to press him to state in what manner he proposed to provide for that sum until he should make the annual financial statement, which he promised to do on the earliest possible day.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Very little of any importance has been transacted in the Lords. On Friday last week, the Habitual Criminals Bill having been moved on its second reading by the Earl of KIMBERLEY, Lord PORTMAN expressed his approval of the measure, and suggested that it might be usefully extended to misdemeanants.

Lord ROMILLY also generally approved of the bill, but criticising its details, pointed out that there were several provisions which were susceptible of improvement in committee.

Lord HYLTON was of opinion that the stringent police supervision proposed would defeat the object of the bill.

The Earl of ARIE would gladly see the extension of the bill, or certain portions of it, to Scotland; and the Earl of CARNARVON, Lord HOUGHTON, and the Duke of CLEVELAND criticised particular details of the measure, which was then read a second time.

On Friday, on the order of going into committee of supply, Lord E. CECIL called attention to the state of the law as regards the use of false weights and measures, and the adulteration of food, drink, and drugs, and moved, "That in the opinion of this House it is expedient that Her Majesty's Government should give their earliest attention to the widespread and most reprehensible practices of using false weights and measures, and of adulterating food, drink, and drugs, with a view of amending the law as regards the penalties now inflicted for those offences, and of providing more efficient means for the discovery and prevention of fraud." The noble lord, after describing the extent to which illegal practices were carried in respect of both those subjects, adverted especially on the injury done to the public health by the admixture of foreign and deleterious matters with articles of food and drink. His opinion was that the evil had grown to its present height through the absence of proper supervision and inspection, and the insufficiency of penalties. He might be asked why he had not introduced a bill on the subject, but his reply was that it was essentially a national one, with which no private member could adequately deal.

Mr. BLACKETT deprecated general statements implicating large numbers of persons as dangerous and likely to be unjust, and concurred with the last speaker in thinking that the extent of adulteration had been much exaggerated. He reminded the House that a commission on the subject was now sitting, and that its recommendations would probably lead to some further legislation on the subject.

The motion was then withdrawn.

On Monday the House having gone into Committee of Supply,

Mr. CHILDERS proceeded to move the estimates for the Navy in a lengthy speech.

On Tuesday Mr. Stapleton obtained leave to bring in a bill applying the minority principle to the election of representative peers for Scotland and Ireland, though Mr. Gladstone, in assenting to it, urged that the initiative ought to be left to the House of Lords in such a matter.

The Sale of Liquors on Sunday (Ireland) Bill was read a second time after some discussion.

THE BRITISH TROOPS IN CANADA ARE EXERCISED IN SNOW SHOES.

NOT EVEN SKILL REQUIRED.—"It is so easy to understand and to work that I had it set up, and had hemmed a piece of calico with it, the seam being perfectly straight and even, within ten minutes from the time I took it out of its case."—J. MAGGILL, Esq., Abercromby-place, Sterling, Scotland, Nov. 27th, 1868. To the Willcox and Gibbs Sewing Machine Co.

THOSE who have experienced the worthlessness of cheap hand machines, and the troublesome-ness of two-thread machines are continually exchanging for The Silent Sewing Machine, the only really practical one for family use. Daily testimony is received of its exceeding usefulness and of perfect satisfaction with its work. Book (98 pages) free. Machines carriage paid. Address the Company at 135 Regent-street, and 150 Cheapside, London.

SPORTS AND PASTIMES.

OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE BOAT RACE.

The increasing popularity of this event is evinced by the vast number of persons who assembled on Thursday last week at Putney, although it was the first day the crews made their appearance on the London water. The Cantabs arrived at one o'clock, and repaired to Mr. Groombridge's, the Star and Garter; while the Oxonians, three hours later, betook themselves to the old Oxford House, Mr. E. Frank's, the White Lion. The Cantabs went out first to try their new boat; and of course, this being the first time they had taken their seats in her, they had to contend against greater difficulties than those ordinarily presented by the first pull on a tidal river; enough was fairly seen to force the conclusion upon the mind of the impartial observer that their form of rowing was very good—it was clean and well pulled, and their stroke is unquestionably a consummate oarsman. They went at from 28 to 32 strokes per minute to Chiswick, where they turned. The Oxonians came out half an hour later, and took a turn down to the bridge before they proceeded up the river; their rowing was splendid, as far as time went, and it was essentially the Oxford style of the last few years—the powerful grip, the simultaneous stroke, and even pace, at 34 strokes per minute, was much admired. The coaching took place from steam yachts. The following are the crews, which are composed of fine men:—

OXFORD.	st. lb	CAMBRIDGE.	st. lb
J. H. Woodhouse, University	11 2	A. Rushton, Emmanuel	11 5
R. Tahourdin, St. John's	11 12	J. H. Radley, Jesus	11 7
T. S. Baker, Queen's	12 10	J. W. Dale, St. John's	11 12
F. Willan, Exeter	12 2	J. F. Young, Christ's	12 5
J. C. Tlane, University	13 10	W. F. Macmillan, Downing	12 2
A. C. Yarborough, Lincoln	11 13	F. W. Anderson, Trinity	11 3
W. D. Benson, Sallol	11 8	P. H. Kellor, Trinity	11 8
S. D. Darbshire	11 8	J. H. D. Goldie, St. John's	11 13
		A. Gordon (coesw), Trinity	7 8

The practice of the rival crews was continued at Putney on Saturday last, but owing to the prevalence of half a gale of wind from the northward they were unable to row over the whole course, the water in Corney Reach being so troubled that it would have been hazardous to speculate upon their boats living through it. As a consequence they were both compelled to turn at Chiswick. They rowed up there against the wind and ebb-tide at a moderate and steady pace, the Oxonians being "coached" by Mr. Risley, and the Cantabs by Mr. Morrison. They both came down on the ebb tide, with the wind abaft the beam the greater part of the way, at a very fine pace. Oxford reaching 34 strokes per minute palled with a fine "clip" of the water, and went through the bridge. Cambridge were shortly after them, also going at a fine pace, and at about the same number of strokes per minute. All that can be said of them is that their form is very good, and seems to require very little finish. They encountered a misadventure at the close which might have been serious. They eased at the aqueduct and were turning, when the power of the tide and force of the wind threw their boat abaft across the piles at Putney-bridge. Some boats put off immediately into which they stepped from their cutter, and owing to the skill displayed by Driver, a Wandsworth waterman, who went promptly to the crew's aid, their boat was soon righted without any damage. The wind having abated and shifted a couple of points to the eastward, the Oxford crew went up on the early flood to Hammersmith-bridge and back at 34 strokes per minute, coached by Mr. Brown, who rowed so fine a stroke oar in the Oxford boat in 1866. As heretofore arrangements have been made for the crews and their old university friends to dine on the 17th inst. at Willis' Rooms, King-street, St. James's.

GRAND MILITARY AND RUGBY HUNT STEEPELCHASES.

The snowstorm which visited London and its district on Monday morning fortunately did not extend as far as Rugby, and those who started under an impression of the improbability of the meeting being brought off were, as they neared the scene of action, relieved from their fears. The weather was by no means brilliant, but the course was capital going, and the attendance of aristocrats and "locals" very large. Only three started for the Veteran Stakes, which was, however, productive of an exciting contest. The crowd closed completely round the horses as they were finishing, and one or two people were rolled over in consequence—in fact, great improvement was requisite during the day in keeping the course and fences clear. The Farmers' Maiden Plate was productive of many mishaps, but furnished a capital finish, Mr. T. Horspool riding very vigorously, and winning mainly by jockeyship. For the Grand Military Gold Cup 12 faced the starter, Tiger being made favourite, while as much as 5 to 1 was laid against Juryman, despite his successes over this course last year. Miss Bosquet, when looking very dangerous, fell; and amongst others who came to grief was Tinderbox, Captain Tempest sustaining thereby a dislocation of the collar-bone. Seven mustered for the Open Handicap, Merry Horn being installed favourite at 6 to 4, taken freely. He made the greater part of the running, but suffered a clever defeat at the hands of Mr. Wilson on Meanwood, who came with just such a rush at the finish as he did when he beat Greenland at Birmingham. It was the general opinion that Merry Horn had been made too much use of, or the positions might have been reversed. George Stevens, the Liverpool hero, made his appearance on Whitehall, but the old horse came to grief. Militiaman easily disposed of his field in the Weight for Age Stakes; Owen Swift, who was invested on at even money, falling early in the journey. The brilliant manner in which the Leopold mare defeated Salamanca at St. Albans made her look a good thing for the Handicap Plate, and she and Freeman were made equal favourites. The chance of the latter was materially affected by a fall at the top turn, and Lord Aberdour's mare won as she liked. As a whole, the racing was very good, and the day thoroughly enjoyable.

FOOTBALL.—The Football Association held their annual meeting at the Freemasons' Tavern last week, Mr. E. Morley was in the chair, and many of the most influential clubs were represented. Among them were—The Wanderers, Civil Service, Royal Engineers, Clapham, Barnes, Brixton, Crystal Palace, Upton Park, Rovers Hitchin, &c. A long discussion ensued respecting the propositions for altering the rules. The one emanating from the Crystal Palace Club, to widen the goal from 8 ft to 12 ft, was negative, and another,

proposed by the Upton Park, to add a clause abolishing charging from behind, was carried. The officers of the previous year were re-elected, and the meeting terminated by a vote of thanks to the chairman.

DREADFUL OCCURRENCE.—During the pigeon shooting of the Gun Club at Shpherd's-bush on Saturday one of the scouts, by whom the environs of the ground is infested, was looking through the crevices of the palings to ascertain, it is supposed, whether a pigeon was killed or missed, and was leaning on his gun, which by some means exploded, shattering his face and head, and killing him. The body was conveyed to the Volunteers' Pavilion, and placed in one of the stables to await a coroner's inquest. It appears that the unfortunate man was a porter on the Great Western Railway.

OPENING OF THE NORTH GERMAN PARLIAMENT BY THE KING.

We give on page 1013 an illustration of the event of the week on the Continent, namely, the opening of the North German Parliament by the King in person. His Majesty, in his speech from the throne, said he rejoiced that the prospect of the maintenance of peace had not, since their last assembling, proved fallacious. His Majesty mentioned the improvement, which would be effected by the Bills already passed and those which were still under discussion. A Bill relative to the electoral law, framed in accordance with Article 20 of the Constitution of the North German Confederation, would be laid before Parliament to secure a uniform system of electoral procedure throughout the entire Confederation, and also to secure the legal status of the Federal officials. The Budget of 1870 showed that an increase of the revenue was necessary. In the postal arrangements between the Confederation and Foreign States progress had been made, and postal conventions with the Netherlands, Italy, Sweden, and the Danubian Principalities will be laid before the Parliament. The organization of the Federal Consular system is approaching completion. A Consular convention with Italy is about to regulate the respective powers of the Consuls of both nations, in order to insure uniformity in the conduct of the Consular administration and the diplomatic representation abroad of North Germany. The necessary expenditure for this purpose will be brought forward in the Budget of 1870. The first duty of the diplomatic agents abroad will be to secure the maintenance of peace between all nations who, like ourselves, know how to value its benefits. The fulfilment of this duty will be facilitated by the friendly terms at present existing between the North German Confederation and all foreign Powers, and which were proved afresh by the peaceful solution of the difficulty which but lately threatened to disturb peace in the East. The negotiations and the result of the Paris Conference have proved the sincere endeavour of the European Powers to regard the blessings of peace as a valuable and common benefit, to be guarded by all as common property. Having seen the success of this course of action, a nation which has proved that it possesses both the will and the power to respect the independence of foreign states and to defend its own is justified in trusting to the continuance of peace, to disturb which neither foreign Governments have the intention nor the enemies of order the power.

HEAVY GALES AND SNOW STORMS ALONG THE COAST.

The heavy gales prevailing round our sea-girt isle during the last eight or ten days, and culminating on Monday night, have unhappily been the cause of several fearful shipwrecks, attended with great loss of life. The graphic sketch which we give on page 1013 represents the rescue of the crew of a vessel,—the schooner James Cucklow, from Ipswich for Perth,—that founded on Monday night off Lowestoft, on the Barnard Sand. The Pakefield Lifeboat Sisters, belonging to the National Lifeboat Institution, was promptly launched to the wreck, and was fortunately the means of rescuing the whole of the crew, seven in number, and of safely landing them in Lowestoft Harbour. Many other casualties are reported. A dreadful hurricane has occurred at Wick, causing great destruction of property by sea and on land. The Clifton Hall, of Sunderland, founded off Hoy Head, in Orkney. One man was killed; the rest of the crew and the captain's wife were saved. The Canadian, of Greenock, from Dundee, was wrecked at Brimsness; crew, 22 in number, saved. There was a very heavy snowstorm during the day.

A crew of nine fishermen belonging to Banffshire have been drowned in crossing from Caithness to their own shores. The *Scotsman* says:—The only really wintry weather which we have had this year was experienced on Saturday and Sunday throughout Scotland. The high winds which prevailed on Thursday and Friday calmed down on the afternoon of the latter day, but early on Saturday morning there was a sudden change in the temperature, and the wind, blowing from the north-west, rose to a gale by daybreak. Sleet was carried in gusts with unpleasant force, and as the morning advanced the sleet was followed by hail, and then again by snow. The forenoon of Saturday continued boisterous; but after midday the storm lulled. About four o'clock, however, the wind again rose, and thereafter, till late at night, driving showers of snow continued to fall at intervals. On Sunday the wind was still from a northly direction; during the day, which was bitingly cold, there were slight falls of snow. Early in the evening frost came on, and as the night advanced it increased in intensity. The streets became dangerously slippery—the snow having been trampled by pedestrians during the day into a slush, which on the setting of the frost became a sheet of ice.

A very distressing shipwreck, accompanied with loss of life occurred off the Scotch coast on the night of the 2nd inst. It appears that the three-masted schooner, the Sisters, sailed from Granton to Monte Video several days since, and must therefore have encountered the recent heavy weather. The intelligence of the disaster comes by way of Bonar Bridge, and is contained in a brief telegram. It appears that on the night of the 2nd a severe storm of wind, accompanied by a heavy fall of snow, swept the coast of Wick, and it is presumed that the Sisters was carried by the force of the hurricane on the rocks on the west side of Durness, about fifteen miles south-west of Cape Wrath, and at once dashed to pieces. No traces of the unfortunate crew have been discovered, and it is believed that they have all perished. The vessel is a complete wreck, and there is but little hope of any of the ship's materials or cargo being recovered. The Sisters was owned in Granton.



CHARLES I DEMANDING THE IMPEACHMENT OF THE FIVE MEMBERS.—(SEE PAGE 1021.)

LADY BAKER.

THE vast field of African exploration numbers amongst its votaries many bright names of which England may well be proud. From the time when Bruce wrote the story of his remarkable travels, and recounted the marvellous things he saw and did, both in fact, and, as after adventurers have been bold to hint, in imagination only, the Nile and its sources have afforded food for the historian and the romancer. Many a veteran tried to reach the fountain-head, and thus solve for ever the mystery; but the grim old river kept its secret well, and life after life was lost in the attempt to unravel it. It was reserved for the present age to accomplish the feat, and wear the honours of a well-won victory. Livingstone, Speke, Grant, are names that will long live in our memory, and will be proudly handed down to succeeding generations as examples of English perseverance and incomitable energy in the face of almost insuperable difficulties.

And now another name, or rather two others, must be added to the glory-roll—Sir Samuel and Lady Baker. Their story is a remarkable one, and is illustrative of our national character. An English gentleman of fortune, accompanied by his wife, start on a perilous journey, impelled by the desire for knowledge and the wish of making known that which scholars so much desired to know; for five long weary years they trudged, cut off from the higher influences of civilisation to which they were so inured, and surrounded by agencies of the most discouraging and even pestilential kind. Harassed by savages, robbed, deceived, betrayed, in sickness and in health, they still press on, and at last the discovery of the ALBERT N'YANZA, the great reservoir of the equatorial waters from which the ancient river issues as the white Nile, rewards their dauntless efforts.

We have said "they," and with reason. The now well-known work which recounts the events of the journey bears the name of Sir Samuel Baker alone, but how unmistakable is the writer's own admission. "I have written 'he,'" he says. "How can I lead the more tender sex through dangers and fatigues, and passages of savage life? A veil shall be thrown over many scenes of brutality that I was forced to witness, but which I will not force upon the reader. . . . Should anything offend the sensitive mind, and suggest the unfitness of the situation for a woman's presence, I must beseech my fair readers to reflect that the pilgrim's wife followed him, weary and footsore, through all his difficulties, led, not by choice, but by devotion, and that in times of misery and sickness her tender care saved his life and prospered the expedition."

A beautiful testimony to woman's high qualities—her tender devotion and quick discernment in the hour of trial. Under ordinary circumstances the lady who should undertake such a hazardous journey would scarcely be commended for her discretion; but who would give aught but praise to the noble wife whose devotion and constancy would not permit her to leave her husband to brave alone the dangers that must inevitably befall him, while she reclined at ease in a luxurious room.

On the 15th of April, 1861, they sailed together up the Nile from Cairo; and for four years their lives were constantly in jeopardy, alike from fever and the tribes by which they were surrounded. Here is a painful episode of the journey that will illustrate what we mean. The travellers have reached a most dangerous position; the natives are so utterly wild and savage in their manner that they cannot be depended on for a moment; a river has to be crossed, and now Mr. Baker shall tell his own tale. "It was equally impossible to ride or to be carried over the treacherous surface; thus I led the way, and begged Mrs. Baker to follow me on foot as quickly as possible, precisely in my track. The river was about eighty yards wide, and I had scarcely completed a fourth of the distance, and looked back to see if my wife followed close to me, when I was horrified to see her standing in one spot, and sinking gradually through the weeds, while her face was distorted and perfectly purple. Almost as soon as I perceived her, she fell, as though shot dead. In an instant I was by her side; and with the assistance of eight or ten men, who were fortunately close to me, I dragged her like a corpse through the yielding vegetation, and up to our waists we scrambled across to the other side, just keeping her head above the water. To have carried her would have been impossible, as we should all have sunk together through the weeds. . . . She lay perfectly insensible, as though dead, with teeth clenched, and her eyes open but fixed. It was a *coup de soleil*." For two days Mr. Baker pursued his melancholy journey by the side of his unconscious wife, who was carried on a litter; for two agonizing nights he watched by

LADY BAKER.



A BATTLE WITH DESTINY.
BOOK THE SECOND.

CHAPTER XVII.

SAVILLE'S LAST MURDER.

THE scene in court took a strange change. Captain Chandos Merton was put in the witness-box against Gordon Saville. Knowing his enemy's real name, a brief but terrible history of the past came back to the mind of Chandos, and he spoke with the eloquence of truth all he knew, all he had suffered through the sin of Gordon Saville.

The assembled people in the court shuddered. They felt that Saville should have been tried for every crime, but that was impossible, his past deeds, his breaking the rules which bind a man holding a ticket-of-leave, were all passed over, and the one great offence brought against him—the murder of Stella Levison.

Joseph Smythe was called, and as he came, he caught Saville's eye and shivered in irrepressible dread. But the sight of young Captain Merton strengthened his motive to denounce his late employer.

The hearing of his evidence was long and tedious, he told a long story, revealed a life of black wickedness that had been led by Saville, owned himself to be a convict, confessed that he had served his master in all things, and was present at the murder of poor Stella, whom he swore Gordon Saville hurled off Death's Peak, and knelt gazing over the peak watching the descent down the dreadful precipice, and smiled in cruel triumph when he saw her lay mangled and lifeless at the bottom, and Smythe told how it was done.

His master was near, he said, when Captain Merton was talking with Stella; he watched and heard every word that passed; he saw Chandos offer her money, and when Stella refused he dropped it at her feet and turned to go. But she caught him by the breast of his coat, Captain Merton broke

away and went on, leaving her standing with his handkerchief in her hand.

Then Saville crept from his place of concealment, and confronted the astonished woman; he taunted her with a few scornful words and then stifling her cries with one hand hurled her off the peak with the other, so the deed was done. So ended the dreadful story.

A low groan of suppressed horror burst from the anxious multitude of listeners. Gordon Saville with all the demoniac points of his nature strongly marked in the terrible set look of his face, and his glance was kept upon Captain Merton who treated him with deserving contempt.

The jury having duly heard the particulars of the murder asked for undisputable proof; the counsel pointed to Smythe, who said most earnestly.

"Me Lords, I see'd it all, so 'elp me God!" and a dead silence followed. The jury began to consider the case; Smythe stood by the side of the witness-box; Captain Chandos was at his side, and spoke a few words in a low voice.

While he was speaking the jury came forward, and avowed Cogil Ernest Merton, alias Gordon Saville, guilty of murder—the murder of his wife.

No sooner had the verdict left the lips of the foreman than a deafening report, followed by a shriek of mortal agony, echoed through the place. Gordon Saville, cold blooded to the last, had only waited to hear the verdict when he drew from his pocket a small loaded pistol with the intent of destroying his enemy's triumph.

But Smythe saw the act. He knew Saville was a good shot, and was covering Chandos Merton's breast with the weapon. Quick as thought he leapt before the youthful captain, and received the ball in his lungs. The shriek had come from Joseph Smythe.

He was lying back in the arms of the Chevalier, while the blood gushed out again. A sickly smile was on his lips, as he looked up into Captain Chandos's face.

"It's all over, cap'n," he said, "forgive me now for what I've done. Yer guv' me my life—I've saved yours."

"My poor fellow!"

But the heavy head sank back, and the form stiffened. Death closed the poor wretch's eyes. Death turned cold the sinful ignorant heart. Joseph Smythe was now no more. That was Gordon Saville's last murder.

He was dragged from the court and thrust into a dark loathsome cell to await death, for which he had no fear, and having no fear, where could be the punishment. Hanging a man for a multitude of crimes may be all very well, and save Government a great deal of expense; but there is no atonement in it for his sins, death must come sooner or later, and it might be more agonized and frightful than the brief pain caused by the hangman's noose.

But though the trial had ended, Norton Luke—Charles Lamb proper—made known to the court Saville's many other outrages. It was at his instigation that poor old Dr. Davison was nearly killed. The cruel death prepared for Benson was made public, it was a long narrative of horror, and when it was over Captain Chandos Merton was graciously presented with the Queen's pardon for having had the misfortune to get accused of a crime of which he was innocent, and Tom Tatters was pardoned for having saved the Government committing a murder.

With only the remembrance of the sad death of Joseph Smythe to mar this otherwise overwhelming joy, Annabel and her chaperone with Chandos and Captain Crowbert left the court for Merton House.

Tom Tatters went with them, and was pardoned by a sweet smile from Annabel for having played "God save the Queen," and "Cheer up Sam," with variations on the whistle whilst they were on the road, and while Chandos was with Annabel Tom sneaked away to the kitchen and blew his instrument without intermission until in fact he had played everything twice over and made himself hoarse, then he left off.

Norton Luke had been missed soon after the trial, he did not arrive till night, and just as Chandos was proposing to start for the madhouse where his uncle was, the detective came in a carriage not his own, and the expression of his face told him he had performed some great good deed; he had, one that crowned all the others, and he had performed many.

Norton Luke was in the drawing room of Merton House, Annabel and Chandos were there with their friends. They would have been very happy but for the one dark sorrow that lay deep in their hearts. That was the absence of Sir Charles Merton.

"Captain Merton, ladies," said Norton Luke, especially addressing Annabel Clyde, I have much to say. You are attired for a journey, sir."

"I was going to the madhouse that contains my poor old uncle. I will have him out if I have to burn the place down to the ground."

"It is of him I would speak, sir. Amongst all my business I did not forget him. Villany does not always triumph, sir. Sir Charles Merton was watched and taken care of. I frustrated the vile plans of his captors, placed a skilful physician over him, for his madness was but of short duration, sir; Sir Charles is now, sir, alive—well—and—"

"How long you are, sir, here" cried a blatant voice outside the door, and General Sir Charles Merton burst into the room.

Oh what joy, what weeping, happiness, confusion! God bless them all.

* * * * *

From the time Saville was condemned to die, Marie Desanges had not been seen. She had flitted away like a shadow, returning to the gaol like one, only when the time came round for the execution.

The night before this terrible event was to take place was not a pleasant one, an uneasy gusty cold wind was blowing, and heavy masses of black flying clouds scudded along the heavens. But the preparations were made, and a few rough labouring men hung about the place waiting to see the unhappy sight.

Amongst them was a tall pale-faced beautiful woman. She stood close to the barriers—stood in deep thought and sorrow, heeding nothing, seeking nothing, but watching the dreary hours away until the morning came, and the fresh broken light showed her wan white face with large eyes, whose burning glow was wild and unnatural.

This woman was Marie Desanges. Those who saw her watched in awe; those who were near got away from where she stood, but she never budged an inch. Close under the platform she stood, and when the time came the burning eager look in her eyes increased, and she watched with suspended breath until Gordon Saville was led forth.

A low painful cry rose from her lips—"My husband," she murmured, when their eyes met, "you shall not die such a death."

But no one heard her, and the ghostly proceedings went on. Saville stood beneath the beam and she uttered a shriek.

"Defy them, cheat them," she screamed wildly. And the spectators were appalled at what followed; the fiery Frenchwoman in all her wild unnatural beauty, stood up with a weapon in her hand. No one could stop her—and she levelled the pistol and shot him at the executioner's feet, and with a laugh of wild derision turned to the crowd, and before a hand could be put on her, she had sent the second ball from a double-barrelled pistol through her own brain.

She had done her work well—Saville died without a moan. A smile of grim triumph was on his lips, and she followed him happy now, for they had departed this world together to seek the mysteries of the next.

(To be concluded in our next.)

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

LYCEUM THEATRE.

Dr. WESTLAND MARSTON occupies among contemporaneous playwrights a position honourable as peculiar. He, almost alone of living dramatists, studies to uphold the poetic prestige of the drama. It is not simply that he adopts that grand old Elizabethan metre which, though long the special language of the British stage, has been rarely heard there since the days of Sheridan Knowles; but he writes with an exceptional purity and refinement of style. He is a poet worthy of the name. His plays, therefore, regarded as works of literary art, take much higher rank than may be legitimately claimed for those of mere adapters and translators. We can well believe that his new drama, entitled "Life for Life," which was produced at this house on Saturday evening, would be delightful reading, so graceful is it in sentiment and so picturesque in diction. It bears frequent evidence of a fervid and elegant fancy, and it abounds in passages of such nervous eloquence as might have been expected from the author of "The Wife's Secret." On the other hand, it must be admitted that there are circumstances which render the new play less attractive in representation than it is likely to prove in study. The dialogue, though admirably written, is too abundant, the plot wants celerity of action, and there is not enough of comic contrast in the characters.

The plot of "Life for Life" professes to be based upon those desperate feuds which raged in Scotland during the middle ages, transmitted through long generations from sire to son with still increasing rancour. It was a time of fierce wars, and one also of abject credulity, when men gave as free play to their fancy as to their frenzy. Accordingly, with the clash of arms and the shock of battle we find commingled wailings and warnings from the spectral world, and ominous visitations of those "wraths" and family phantoms which were on terms more easy than welcome with Caledonian households in those remote days. Of the story itself little more need be said than that it is a romantic legend showing in how rough and tortuous channel ran the course of true love for Oscar and Lillian, who, with no more regard for the hereditary quarrels of the Macrons and the Mackanes, from whom they are respectively descended, than Romeo and Juliet showed for the feuds of the Capulets and Montagues, became mutually enamoured and betrothed. The rage and indignation of the opposing clansmen are, with the love of the hero and heroine, the predominant passions of the scene; and the clansmen's efforts to prevent the marriage at all costs constitute the main business of the plot. But all ends well, the lovers being happily united, and a fresh source of satisfaction arising in the recovery of Kenelm, a high-spirited boy whose supposed death had been the chief incentive to vengeance with his father, Murdoch, and the Mackanes, of whom the latter is the head. The scenery, by Messrs Brew, comprises some well-arranged interiors and several romantic landscapes, the latter including an exquisite view of a Highland glen, where a picturesque dance, with ingenious interlacings of claymores and plaids, by Miss Caroline Parkes and the corps de ballet, all in Scottish costume, give a spirited and characteristic effect to wild revels supposed to be in celebration of Sir Oscar's happy return from the French wars.

The best played character in the drama is that of Murdoch, by Mr. Hermann Vezin, who depicts most impressively the remorseless purpose and dark reveries of a stern vindictive

man, moodily brooding over the idea of vengeance till the thought of it dethrones reason and becomes the master passion of his soul. Mr. Coghlan acts both carefully and spiritedly as Oscar; Mr. G. Jordan, as Roderick, gives a finished portrait of an old clansman, faithful unto death to the traditions of his race; and Miss Minnie Sydney plays very prettily in the character of young Kenelm, the long lost son. There was abundant applause on the fall of the curtain, and Dr. Westland Marston experienced an enthusiastic reception on appearing at the footlights in compliance with an unanimous summons.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.

THE new Opera House in the Haymarket is now so nearly completed, and the works up to the present time have progressed with such marvellous celerity, that the announcement can now be made that Her Majesty's Theatre will really be ready for the reception of its patrons and of the public at a very early date. It is stated confidently, indeed, by those who from their position at the new theatre are sure to be best informed upon this point, that if it were desired, Her Majesty's Theatre, complete at all points, could throw open its doors to the public on the Tuesday in the forthcoming Easter week, March 30. The well-known guarantee of the constructors (the Messrs. Trollope) that their works should be finished absolutely at the time appointed was quite enough to satisfy, without the promise to the same effect from Messrs. Charles Lee and Paine, the architects. The completion of the great work being then so near at hand, a few details as to the general design of the new Opera House may be published. The front or Haymarket side will be occupied by the stage entrance or the private hall to the theatre, the box-office, the large entrance for the receiving of the scenery, formerly dignified by the name of the "elephant's hole," in consequence of the access thereby to the stage for elephants, camels, dromedaries, and other quadrupeds—not to speak of horses—used in former days, and still to be used now, when occasion demands, for grand processions, or in extraordinary scenic displays. Then proceeding northwards we arrive at the waiting-rooms, the rooms appropriated to the manager and his staff, the secretary and auditor's room, the treasurer's room, the acting manager's room, the conductor of the orchestra's room, many of the dressing-rooms, and all the endless minutiae in accommodation requisite for a great opera house. The building designated the "scene dock," and the great painting-room, where Mr. Telbin and his assistants, Mr. Danson and other scenic artists of eminence, are at this period busy, night and day, in preparations for the speedy opening, are marvels of judicious contrivance, each of the size of a small chapel. Over and above those special characteristics which made the previous Her Majesty's Theatre one of the finest architectural edifices in the world, the body, or great internal circle of the new house, will present a striking and magnificent picture. The house is built in a horse-shoe curve, 70 feet deep from the curtain by 56 wide in the centre line. The whole of the arena space will be given up to cushioned stalls, covered with cherry-coloured silk damask, each of ample breadth. The floor will be carpeted, and there will be abundant room for egress and ingress at all times without crowding or discomposure. The aim, in fact, in the arrangements of this new Opera House is to realize, if possible, one of the most brilliant and elegant places of rendezvous in the world, exceeding Paris wholly in its refinements. The stalls will accommodate 750 visitors.

The entrance to her Majesty's box will be by a spacious hall and noble staircase. These boxes, appropriated for the use of royal or illustrious visitors, will be exceedingly commodious, and they will have besides their state entrance, used on public occasions, a private entrance, with separate stone staircases to both. Behind the royal box are ample waiting-rooms, the decorations of which will be exceedingly beautiful. Every possible method has been adopted to secure the utmost defence against fire, the risk of which the public may be fully assured has been reduced in this magnificent theatre to a minimum. It is stated that the new Opera House will be handed over to Mr. Mapleson, the present lessee, complete in all points on the 25th of the present month, and that its inauguration, which will be an historical event, might take place a very short time after his occupation.

THE American actress, Mrs. John Wood, has taken the St. James's Theatre on a lease.

The full-length white marble statue of Clesinger, representing a woman stung by a serpent, has been sold at the Hotel des Ventes, Paris, for £940.

An ancient opera-house manager, M. Durais, has recently died in his ninety-first year. He was a page once to the unfortunate Louis XVI.

A SCHEME is on foot for converting the Polygraphic Hall into a theatre for the performance of Opera Bouffe. The erection of a new theatre on a site in Piccadilly is also contemplated.

THE sculptor Wichmann, of Munich, has just finished the model of a statue in bronze of Goethe, which is to be inaugurated in that city on the 28th of August.

THE Glowworm, an evening journal, after feebly shining for over four years in the cause of Conservatism, died on the 13th ult. of public neglect.

A CELEBRATED Swedish novelist and poet, M. Kiellman Göransson, died on the 10th ult., aged fifty-eight. His principal work is a romance entitled "Abednego."

AT Whitsuntide, at Bradford, a monument of the late Mr. Richard Oastler, the successful advocate of the "Ten Hours Bill," is to be uncovered by the Earl of Shaftesbury.

THE Man with Two Lives, a version, by Mr. Bayle Bernard, of "Les Misérables" of M. Victor Hugo, will be the Easter novelty at Drury-lane.

THE earlier sermons of Mr. C. H. Spurgeon are being published weekly in the advertising columns of the *Australian*. The entire expense is borne by a wealthy inhabitant of Melbourne.

AN actor recently had a benefit at the Salt Lake Theatre, at which the receipts consisted principally of corn in the ear, sweet potatoes, white mice, young pigs, and 200 axe handies. We have known actors fare worse.

ROSSINI left three millions of francs. An Italian paper states that according to a codicil found after the will, the City of Pesaro is entitled immediately to all the composer's property in Italy on condition that fifty per cent. of it is paid to the widow.

At Pompeii there have just been discovered two marble busts, one of Pompey, and the other Brutus. They are both of fine execution, and have been placed in the National Museum.

THE Rossini celebration at Pesaro is not to take place before August next. Cherubini's "Requiem," the very finest in being, and "The Swan's" "Stabat Mater," are to be performed.

SOME short time ago a paragraph appeared in the papers announcing the important discovery recently made at the India Office Library of "the Timour MSS." The discovery was important; but the name of the discoverer was not given. We learn that it is Hassun Effendi, an eminent Arabic scholar.

A BUST of the late G. V. Brooke, who was lost in the steamship London three years ago, was presented on the 29th of December last to the trustees of the Public Library and Museum of Art, Melbourne. The bust was executed by Mr. Charles Summers, he cost having been defrayed by the proceeds of a series of amateur theatrical performances got up by the newspaper press gentlemen of Melbourne.

M. MANET, a French artist, lately finished a picture representing the "Death of Maximilian of Mexico," and contracted to have it engraved. The Government has not only prohibited the engravings, which it has a right to do, but purposes to confiscate the stone on which the engraver's work is done. This M. Manet contends is an excess of jurisdiction, inasmuch as the engraving has not been published, and he intends to bring the question of property before a court of law.

THE question of the severance of the Siamese twins has not, in their own minds, taken quite so decided a form as has been supposed. The wish seems to be that of their respective families. They married two sisters, and each is the father of nine children. Eng has six sons and three daughters, Chang six daughters and three sons. Between the families there is not the same perfect harmony as between the fathers, and there are periods when each family wishes to have a father all to itself. At least so report says.

THE demolition of the stone bridge at Lessines, over the Dender, in Belgium, has led to the discovery of a number of objects of antiquity, consisting of several hundreds of coins belonging to the period of the Spanish domination; seven small keys, a horseshoe, a small axe, and divers other articles. The most curious of all is, however, a silver key of elegant workmanship, supposed to have been that which was presented with ceremony to the sovereign when he entered the town.

AT Mr. M'Lean's gallery in the Haymarket there is now on view an admirable collection of oil paintings, comprising many choice productions in landscapes and "genre" by the most distinguished modern masters, both British and foreign. The exhibition would be well worth visiting if only for the sake of two famous pictures, "Penelope" (11) and "Phryne" (23), by M. C. Marchall, which attracted so much attention when exhibited last season at the Salle in Paris.

GUSTAVE DORE will, it is said, send not one, but two paintings to the salon of this year. The first represents the body of Rossini after death; the other, Rossini under the figure of the Genius of Music in tears. Many of Dore's friends have advised him to have the latter placed in the foyer of the Italian Opera house, as long as the maestro's famous mass is being executed.

THE BANQUET TO MR. CHARLES DICKENS AT LIVERPOOL.—Lord Houghton, Lieutenant-General Sir E. Cust, the Mayor of Manchester, and other distinguished and representative men, have so far accepted invitations to the banquet, which will be held in St. George's Hall on the 10th April. Ladies will be present on the occasion, and the galleries are to be opened to the public at a reasonable price.

MADAME VICTOR HUGO has left in her will the pen with which her illustrious husband wrote the first volume of *Contemplations* to Jules Janin, with the following message: "To our friend, in sunshine and in shade, to the valiant defender of all exiles and of all courage, I bequeath the pen with which my husband wrote the first volume of *Contemplations*. It will be found in one of the small draws of my lemon-wood secretary, which is in my bedroom." The pen with which Victor Hugo wrote *Les Châtiments* was given by him to Camille Berru, the secretary of the *Indépendance Belge*, who has had it carefully placed beneath a glass and preserved in his library, with a note from the author to certify the fact.

GENERAL GRANT having sent Count Bismarck a copy of his "Military History," a work written by General Badeau, United States Army, Count Bismarck has sent General Grant the following acknowledgment of its receipt:—"I hasten to return you my hearty thanks for a work which promises me the enjoyment of viewing in a succinct shape that gigantic struggle the varying phases of which I did follow at the time with intense interest. It will be a permanent source of gratification and pride to think that I owe the volume now open before me to the kind and sympathetic feelings of the very man who took Vicksburg and Richmond. May peace restored by you afford equal scope to your powers with equal benefit to your country, and may the present interchange of friendly sentiments between us prove a good augury for the continuance of those relations so happily established between America and Germany."

WHEN the intelligence arrived in Melbourne nearly three years ago of the loss of the eminent actor G. V. Brooke, in the steamship London, some of his friends and admirers started the idea of raising some memorial of his fame; but, unfortunately, after the first few weeks those gentlemen became rather lukewarm in their efforts; many who had professed themselves friends of Brooke when he was alive, not only taking no active part in the movement, but apparently trying to thwart it. The gentlemen connected with the newspaper press of the city, however, determined not to let the matter drop, and though their occupation is one that gives them very little leisure, they managed to bring off successfully a series of amateur theatrical performances, from which they realized a sum of £200. For this amount they commissioned Mr. Charles Summers to execute a bust of the late tragedian. Mr. Summers performed his task in London, and the bust arrived in Melbourne a few weeks ago. On the 29th ult. it was presented to the trustees of the Public Library and Museum of Art, the ceremony being attended by about forty press men. The presentation speech was made by Mr. G. P. Smith, the Attorney-General, who was one of the press committee; and Sir Redmond Barry replied on behalf of the trustees of the library. The bust is a fine work of art, and is a very fair likeness of Brooke.

PRINTING IN ANTIQUE TYPE.—Judd and Glass, of the Phoenix Works, St. Andrews-hill, have, in addition to their extensive selection of Modern Types, complete Founts of Old-faced Letters, and execute orders for large and small Posting Bills, Circulars, Reports, &c., by Steam Machinery, with the utmost expedition. Estimates on application.

THE MANUFACTURE OF WATCHES AND CLOCKS.—A most interesting and instructive little work, describing briefly, but with great clearness, the rise and progress of watch and clock making, has just been published by Mr. J. W. Benson, of 25, Old Bond-street, 99, Westbourne-grove, and the City Steam Factory, 58 and 60, Ludgate-hill. The book, which is profusely illustrated, gives a full description of the various kinds of watches and clocks, with their prices, and no one should make a purchase without visiting the above establishments or consulting this truly valuable work. By its aid persons residing in any part of the United Kingdom, India, or the Colonies, are enabled to select for themselves the watch best adapted for their use, and have it sent to them with perfect safety. Mr. Benson, who holds the appointment to the Prince of Wales, sends this pamphlet to any address on receipt of two postage stamps, and we cannot too strongly recommend it to the notice of the intending purchaser.

COURT AND SOCIETY.

The Queen, accompanied by Princess Louise, and attended by the Dowager Duchess of Athole and Lady Waterpark, visited the National Memorial to the Prince Consort in Hyde-park on Friday morning last week. The Eggers in Waiting were in attendance on horseback. Her Majesty was received at the baiting by the Right Hon. A. H. Layard, General Hon. C. Grey, Sir T. M. Biddle, Mr. Scott, and Mr. Kelk.

The Queen, accompanied by Princess Louise, Princess Beatrice, and Princess Christian, left Buckingham Palace in the afternoon at twenty minutes before six o'clock. Her Majesty drove to Paddington, escorted by a detachment of the 17th Lancers, and travelled by a special train on the Great Western Railway to Windsor. Lady Waterpark, Colonel Hon. A. Liddell, and Lord Charles Fitzroy were in attendance.

Her Majesty, Princess Louise, and Princess Beatrice went out in the grounds on Saturday morning, and in the afternoon the Queen drove out attended by the Dowager Duchess of Athole. Their Royal Highnesses Princess Louise and Prince Christian rode in the Home-park. Prince Leopold went out, attended by Mr. Duckworth.

The Queen, Princess Louise, Prince Leopold, and Princess Beatrice, and the Ladies and Gentlemen in Waiting, attended Divine Service on Sunday morning in the private chapel. The Hon. and Very Rev. the Dean of Windsor, and the Rev. Dr. Hessey, prebendary of St. Paul's, officiated. Dr. Hessey preached the sermon.

The Queen walked in the grounds on Monday morning, and drove, attended by the Dowager Duchess of Athole. Princess Louise, Prince Leopold, and Princess Beatrice also went out.

The Dowager Duchess of Athole, Earl and Countess Granville, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer left the castle.

Her Majesty held the first Drawing Room of the season on Wednesday at Buckingham Palace. Notwithstanding the coldness and dampness of the morning, carriages began to drive towards the palace very early in the forenoon. All the approaches were made available.

THE PRINCESS CHRISTIAN.—The following bulletin has been issued:—“ Frogmore House, Windsor, Saturday. The recovery of her Royal Highness the Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein is advancing uninterruptedly. The infant prince continues quite well. It is not considered necessary to issue any more bulletins.—Arthur Farre, M.D.; Thomas Fairbank, M.D.”

THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES IN EGYPT.—The following letter from Cairo, dated February 16, appears in the *Levant Herald*:—“ There is no precise news of the progress of the Prince and Princess of Wales and party on the Nile. It could not be very rapid on account of the arrangement of the boats, which consisted of the Viceroy's dhababish, for the personal accommodation of their royal highnesses, towed by a large steamer, which was to serve as a refectory, and in which also were a few of the suite; a second steamer for the remainder of the suite; a third for Colonel Sutton, H.M. Agent and Consul General, in attendance on their royal highnesses; a fourth for the kitchen; and, lastly, a fifth for his Grace the Duke of Sutherland and party, who were to keep company on the river with the Prince and Princess. It being thus intended that the dinner and other meals of their royal highnesses should be taken on board the large steamer first mentioned, it would at the time of each meal be necessary for the kitchen steamer first to come up, and when the table was served, for the Prince and Princess's dhababish to be brought alongside; and thus general stoppage of the fleet would be occasioned for each meal, not to mention other stoppages when their royal highnesses might wish to pass from their dhababish to one or other of the steamers, or to call any one from a steamer into their dhababish. Further, it is neither pleasant nor safe navigating the Nile at night, and it cannot be done at all except at reduced speed, in consequence of the many sand-banks formed in the bed of the river, and the narrowness and tortuousness in places of its navigable channel. As it is, with of course strict injunctions to the captains and pilots to be watchful and take every possible care in navigating their precious freights, two of the steamers are reported to have been aground and to have occasioned so much delay that Niunis, 160 miles from Cairo, was not reached under three days. But where would be the advantage of hurrying? There can be no pleasure without leisure. People usually go up the Nile to recreate and idle away the time in sight-seeing; and, speaking from experience, it is infinitely more agreeable to go quietly along on the river, indulging one's inclination to examine this or that object of modern life, or of antiquity, or of nature, as the case may be, occasionally alternating the mode of transport by a walk on shore, than to be hurried from station to station as if it was all a matter of business. The usual result of the modern mode of doing the Nile by steam is that travellers come away with a very indistinct general impression of what they have seen, and with nothing clearly defined in their mind's tablet. It requires as well time to produce a lasting mental as physical effect. Looking, therefore, to the wondrous nature of the Egyptian monuments, the still primeval character of the descendants of the people who built them, and the importance of Egypt in any political combination which may affect England, it is desirable that our future sovereign should have a clear idea of the country, and of all belonging to it.”

LAW AND POLICE.

JOHN SPONG, the malister, who was convicted at the Old Bailey December sessions of forging a will, has just been sentenced to seven years' penal servitude.

AT the Greenwich police-court, the Rev. Rupert Turner, curate of St. Paul's, Deptford, who had been apprehended on a warrant, was sent to prison on remand (being unable to get bail) on a charge of indecently assaulting a girl between eleven and twelve years of age residing at Deptford.

AT the Marylebone police-court Alfred Moses, of 12, Finsbury-circus, was fined 40s. and costs for riding on the Metropolitan Railway in a first-class carriage when he had only paid third-class fare, and 40s. and costs for refusing to show his ticket when asked to do so.

A FRAUDULENT BANKRUPT.—A fraudulent bankrupt has been prosecuted at the Hampshire assizes by order of the judge of the Hampshire county court, for having within three months of the filing of his petition obtained sheep under the false colour of carrying on business. The prisoner, George Cooke, was a butcher at Cowes, in the Isle of Wight, and bought forty sheep of three different farmers in the Newport market, promising to pay for them in a month. A week after the transaction, however, he filed his petition in bankruptcy, his debts being £280 and his assets realising £7. Twenty of the sheep he sent to Southampton and had them sold by auction, and with the proceeds he paid his lawyer £20 to take him through the court, and one or two creditors for small amounts. The jury found him guilty, and Mr. Justice Smith sentenced him to three months' hard labour.

A GENTLEMAN POACHER.—On Friday, at the Framlingham Petty Sessions, Mr. J. Cully, gamekeeper, of Aldeburgh, and Mr. F. Baxter, a colt-breaker, of Leiston, were charged by Mr. Dove, gamekeeper to the Duke of H. Milton, with having on the 13th February, at Hatcheston, un lawfully used a greyhound for the purpose of taking game—a hare. Mr. Cully, in defence, said he had been to Mr. Barker's to course, and was returning through Hatcheston to Saxmundham, when a hare crossed the road and

the dogs went after it. He said to Baxter, “ First, get out and get the dogs off.” Baxter got out, but was too late, as one of the dogs had killed the hare. He (Mr. Cully), then said “ It is of no use leaving the hare there; it will not be seen in the rye, and will only be spoiled; put it in the vehicle.” He had no intention to kill the hare. The defendants were each fined £2 10s., and costs £2. The money was paid.

CARD-SHARPERS.—Henry Ward, described as a card-sharper, was charged at the Thames police-court with gambling in the East India Dock-road. A police-sergeant said numerous complaints had been made of the card-sharpers who infested the East India Dock-road. Their victims were generally sailors. He saw the prisoner with fourteen or fifteen persons around him, among whom were his confederates. One of the gang put down a shilling as a bet on one of the three cards, and of course he turned up the right one. That induced others to play, and among them were three sailors, and they all lost. He seized the prisoner with the three cards upon him, and the rest of the gang dispersed. The prisoner, who was recognised as an old frequenter of fairs and races, was sent for a month's hard labour.

ACTION FOR SLANDER BY A CLERGYMAN.—In the Sheriff's Court the under-sheriff had to hear to assess the damages in an action for slander brought by the Rev. R. Lee, rector of Stepney, against the Rev. T. H. Ball. The action, in which judgment had been allowed to go by default, arose out of a sermon preached in Stepney church by the defendant whilst the plaintiff was present. The plaintiff had charged a flower-girl in the Borough with stealing his watch, and she had stated that it was given to her. The plaintiff, his counsel said, had mistaken the day of the examination at the police-court, and the girl was discharged. The defendant in a sermon after that occurrence, spoke of “ the scandal which had been brought on the parish by one holding the highest office in that church,” and for this sermon Mr. Lee brought the action. Damages were laid at £2,000: the jury assessed them at one farthing.

ANOTHER BENEFIT SOCIETY IN A POLICE COURT.—A man named Bolton stated at the Westminster police-court that he had been paying 2d. a week to a benefit society for twelve years, and having just lost his wife, who had belonged to the society for twenty years, and not having the means wherewith to bury her, he applied to the secretary for £7, to which he was entitled on his wife's death, and was told that the society had no funds and was dissolved. He (the applicant) then went to Mr. Tidd Pratt, who told him that he had not received any notice of its dissolution. A collector of the society who was in court said that they had no funds, or they would willingly pay the money; and on the applicant accusing him of taking the last 2s. in July, when he knew the society was in a state of bankruptcy, the collector said he did not know it until the next day. Mr. Selfe granted the poor man a free summons, and said the more the public knew of these notorious and miserable swindles the fewer dopes there would be; he wished the legislature would put a stop to such rascally proceedings. Complaints of this kind, he was sorry to say, were too frequent to be looked over.

SOMETHING FOR CRICKETERS.—A case of some interest to the cricketing world (*Pago v. Wisden*) was heard on Monday before Vice-Chancellor Malins. The plaintiff, who is the assignee of the copyright in Frederick Lillywhite's cricket scoring sheet, filed a bill to restrain the defendant from infringing that copyright. It was contended on behalf of the defendant that the alleged invention was no invention at all, that the plan of the scoring sheet was known so long ago as 1818, that at any rate Frederick Lillywhite was not the author, and that it was far too trifling to be the subject of copyright. The Vice-Chancellor said the matter was a very small one, relating to a game which always had been and he hoped always would be, interesting to Englishmen, and he regretted that a reasonable arrangement had not been come to. As to the question of copyright his honour held that there was neither sufficient novelty nor importance in the sheet to make it a fit subject for copyright. It would be absurd to hold that there was a copyright in a particular mode of ruling a book, and yet this was little more. The bill ought never to have been filed, and it must be dismissed with costs, including the costs of the motion.

NOTES INTERESTING AND ODD.

A GIRL in Berkshire, Massachusetts, walked fourteen miles through the snow recently to meet and marry a young man who had been forbidden by her father to enter his house.

IN New York it has been discovered that oysters are adulterated by soaking them in a solution of suds, which swells them to a very tempting size.

THE young men of Chicago are said to be classified according to their skill as velocipedists into the “ timid toddlers,” the “ wary wobblers,” the “ go-it-graceful,” and the “ fancy few.”

ANNA GAGARIN, the daughter of a Moscow merchant, is the wealthiest heiress in Russia. Her prospective fortune is estimated at 100,000,000 roubles—about £15,000,000. We should be sorry if this announcement brought a host of applicants in the shape of smart young men from London, who have just lost their Civil Service appointments of £100 a year by the new changes the Government has instituted.

AN interesting report on the Suez Canal has been made by the eminent engineer, Mr. John Fowler, who is now travelling in Egypt in the suite of the Prince of Wales. This canal is really of transcendent importance to English interests. Mr. Fowler believes that it will be open for traffic before the end of the year, and he seems to think that to overcome the difficulty of keeping the canal free from sand is a mere question of money.

ELIAS KLEENE, of North Turner, Maine, has a pair of albums composed of the locks of hair of upwards of eighty persons, from the age of ninety-six years to five weeks, including his maternal grandfather, all his children and grandchildren, his paternal grandparents, their children and grandchildren, his first, second, and present wife, with three children. The different shades are artistically blended into buds, half-blown and full-blown flowers.

The Louisville Courier Journal gives an account of a young lady, near Hickman, Kentucky, who has spent nineteen of her twenty-seven years in sleep. She wakes frequently ten or twelve times a day, but cannot remain awake more than ten or twenty minutes at a time. Her appearance is said to be rather prepossessing, and she is much more intelligent and well-informed than would be expected from one in her condition.

The Liverpool Mercury says that the total number of valentines delivered this year in the postal districts of Liverpool was 115,000. As in former years an immense number of “babies” and dolls were sent as valentines. About 300 objectionable articles, such as red herrings, black puddings, and rats, were also sent; but these were, by order of the Post-office authorities, stopped and destroyed. One gentleman was favoured with a nightcap, which was superscribed, “ To —, a sleepy-headed gentleman,” &c.

We are glad to learn from an amusing dialogue in *La Vie Parisienne* that the necessity of classifying French novels has

at last been recognised. A lady entering a circulating library asks for a novel: “ I don't know how to tell you exactly the kind I want,” she says. “ Oh, I think we shall be able to suit you,” was the reply. “ I mean something lively,” explains the intrepid reader; the sort of book that would not be precisely suitable for the library of a young girl. “ Marie,” cries the keeper of the book shop to her assistant, “ novel for a woman of thirty-five.”

This has certainly been a season of extraordinary mildness. Violets have never this winter been missed in the streets of Paris. Large bouquets of the pale Parmesan have been sold for a franc, and of the more ordinary violet for five pence. At the flower markets the Parisians have kalmias, spireas, rhododendrons, and azaleas in abundance: every flower shop has a bountiful supply of white lilac, lilies of the valley, &c., in profusion. Green peas and asparagus have been all through the winter purchaseable at the markets; and fish, in consequence of the mild weather, has been very abundant.

ABOUT 45,000 valentines were posted at the Birmingham office and at its sub-offices. Of these about 28,000 were for delivery in the town and rural districts, and 17,000 for other towns. A corresponding number was received from other towns for delivery in Birmingham, making the number delivered equal with the number posted. Birmingham being a “forward” office, about 35,000 valentines were received there from other towns to be sorted and again despatched; making the total number of valentines dealt with at the Birmingham office 97,000. The valentines which passed through Leeds Post-office numbered nearly 53,000, of which 20,000 were delivered in the town.

Paris eats 30,000,000 lbs. of fish in the year, which brings in about 13,000,000fr. One quarter of this amount is exported from abroad. From England come the salmon and lobsters; from Holland the prawn—so inevitable in the popular *vol-au-vent*—the eel, pike, and carp; from Belgium the mussel, of which the Parisian is so *gourmand*; from Switzerland the trout; from Prussia salmon and trout, as well as an immense quantity of crabs; but it must be confessed that the great difficulty of not only transporting this enormous amount of fish in good condition to an inland capital but that of preserving it fresh in the heat of summer till sold, has not as yet been solved.

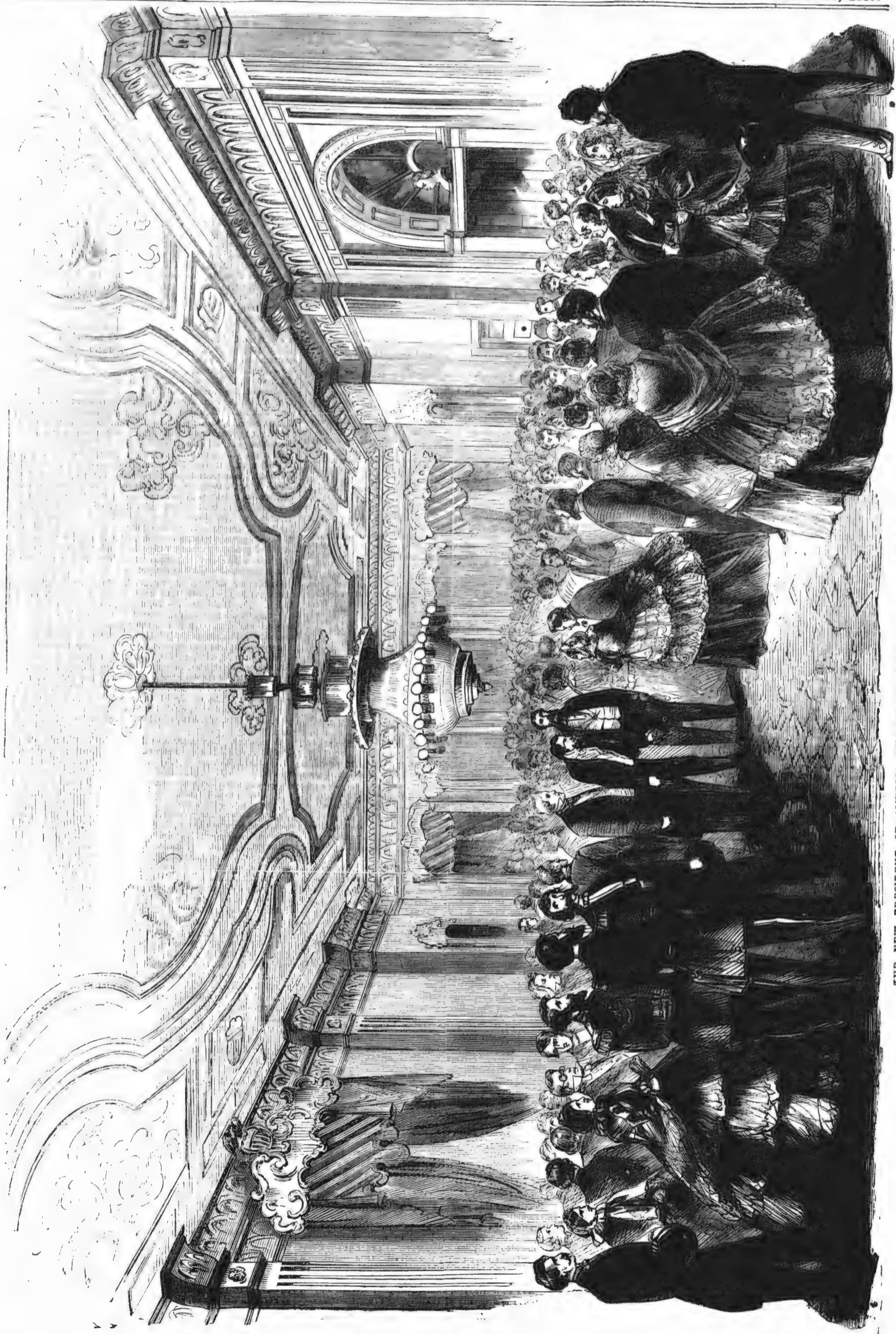
DUMBOUNTING THE BEADLE.—A singular event has just happened at St. George's Church, Antwerp. The beadle there has the custom of preceding the principal persons of the parish in order to make way for them. A decently-dressed woman whom he wished to move aside refused saying, “ I am in the house of God, where all are equal. If those ladies wish to pass, let them go round.” The functionary, little habituated to such observations, took her by the arm and tried to force a passage; but she raised her hand and gave him such a slap of the face as no dignitary of his kind had perhaps ever received before. He was so thunderstruck at the attack that he never thought of persisting.

DISCOVERY OF OLD JEWELS.—A singular discovery of diamonds and jewellery has been made at Newton Abbot, Devonshire. Denbury House, belonging to a gentleman at Torquay, has lately been undergoing repairs. The house is a very ancient one. In one of the rooms a painter discovered a cupboard which apparently had not been opened for centuries. The cupboard was locked, but the painter was curious to see what was inside, and, having obtained permission to open it, was surprised to find a quantity of diamonds, jewellery, &c. No one had the slightest knowledge of the cupboard, and it is the general belief that the articles had been secreted there for generations. The owner of the property took possession of the find, which is estimated to be worth several hundred pounds. We have not heard whether the finder was rewarded in any way.

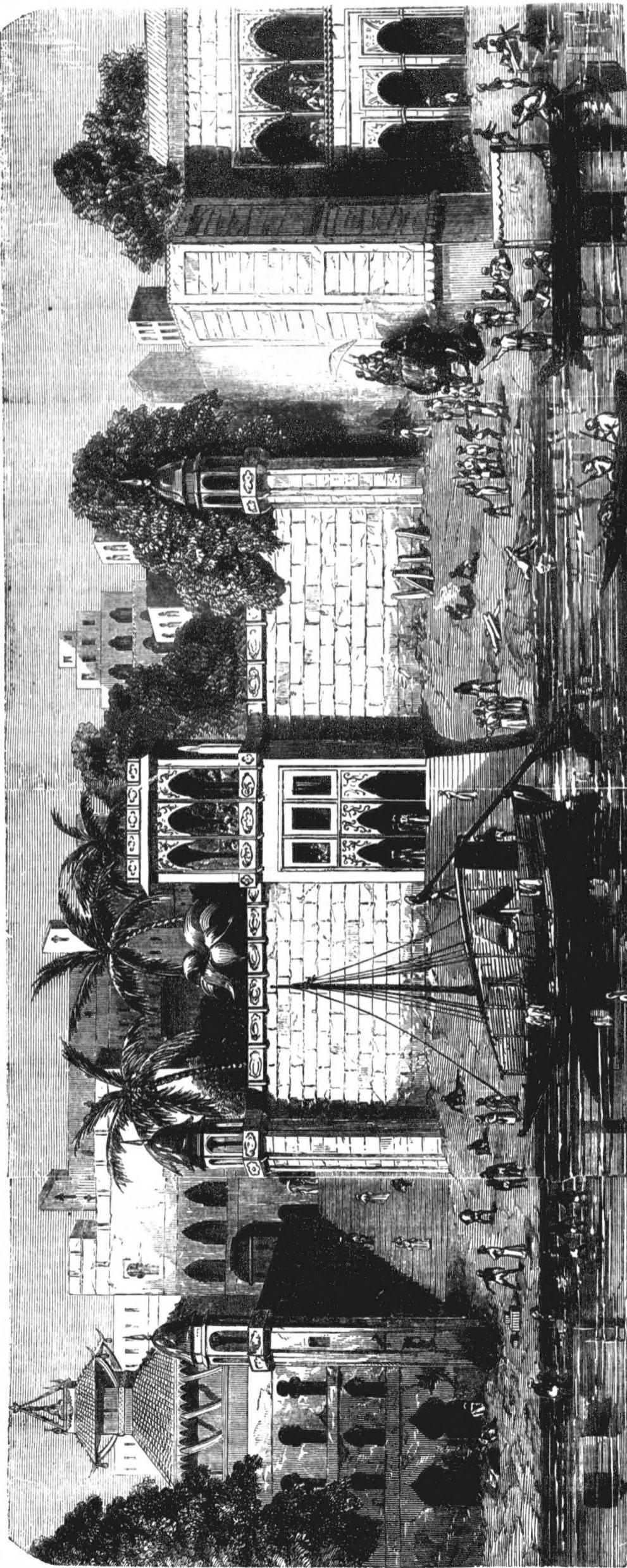
ARSENICAL PLAYTHINGS.—At the last meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society Professor Attfield said: “ I recently sat watching the pretty play of two children in whom I have special interest. The one—a boy about two years old—was charmed with the movements of a toy bird suspended by an elastic thread; the other—a baby girl—equally delighted with a simple cotton reel. Each testified joy by suddenly stuffing the plaything into its mouth. But the wings of the bird were coloured green, so was the label on the reel. The articles were therefore quickly taken from the children, subsequently analysed, and found to contain arsenic. Now this statement need not alarm anyone. Arsenical paper-hangings, paints, artificial flowers, and birdies, and even arsenical labels are all useful and pretty in their way. These green pigments or powders, (green dyes are harmless), like sharpknives, needles, and scissors, have their appointed place. But they must be kept out of the mouths of children.

A MOTHER OF TWENTY CHILDREN.—In a remote part of Westmoreland there was interred, on a recent Sunday afternoon, the body of a woman, who in her time had been the mother of no fewer than twenty children. Deceased was the widow of a tenant-farmer named Park, who resided at Preston-Richard, a small township in the northern county. She married at the age of sixteen years, and at the time of her decease had only attained her fifty-fifth year. What is most remarkable, perhaps, is the fact that the youngest of the twenty children is but eight years of age, while several of the others are either grown up or married; and they are all fine healthy illustrations of the young people to be met with among “ the hardy sons of Westmoreland.” Moreover, it is somewhat remarkable that the father died and was buried within three weeks of the mother; and on each occasion did the twenty children follow their deceased parent to the grave—twelve daughters and eight sons. As may be supposed, the well-known family peculiarity of the “ Parkes of Milton,” drew a large concourse of people to the funeral, in fact, from all round the country side, so that the procession was unusually large, and the interest attaching to it proportionately deep. It is worthy of remark that the united ages of the twenty orphan children represent 400 years—that is, by taking each child with another on an average of twenty years.

NO MORE MEDICINE.—Health restored by Du Barry's delicious Revalente Arabica Food, which cures dyspepsia, indigestion, cough, asthma, consumption, debility, constipation, diarrhoea, palpitation, nervous, bilious, liver, and stomach complaints. Cure No. 63,413.—“ Rome, July 21, 1866. The health of the Holy Father is excellent, especially since, abandoning all other remedies, he has confined himself entirely to Du Barry's Food, and his holiness cannot praise this excellent food too highly.”—Gazette, Du Barry and Co., No. 77, Regent-street, London, W. In tins, at 1s. 1d.; 1lb., 2s. 9d.; 12lbs., 22s.; 24lbs., 40s. Also at Fortnum and Mason, and all grocers and chemists.



THE NEW PRESIDENT OF AMERICA—THE FIRST RECEPTION AT THE WHITE HOUSE, WASHINGTON—(SEE PAGE 105)



BENARES THE SACRED.

BENARES.

BENARES, the sacred, or the "splendid" and the "most holy" city in Hindostan, is situate on the northern banks of the Ganges. It is the ecclesiastical metropolis, in fact, of India; and is resorted to by pilgrims from all parts of the country. The city extends about four miles along the banks of the river. The buildings are of stone or brick, and are fine specimens of architecture as will be seen from our illustration above. The Hindoo Sanscrit college of this city is the chief seat of native learning in India. The natives believe the city to form no part of the terrestrial globe, but to rest upon the point of Siva's trident: hence they say no earthquake ever affects it.

CHARLES I. DEMANDING THE IMPEACHMENT OF THE FIVE MEMBERS.

The large historical engraving of the above subject, given on page 1016 will be looked upon with interest at this critical juncture of the most important debates on record. The original of the picture is a fine painting by Mr. Copley, the father of the late Lord Lyndhurst. The subject is well known, and needs but a brief notice. The King, by the advice of Lord Ligby, had prepared a paper containing articles of accusation for high treason and other misdemeanours against Lord Kimbolton, of the House of Peers, and five members—Pym, Hampden, D'Hollis, Haslerig, and Strode—distinguished for their steady and able opposition in the House of Commons. A sergeant-at-arms was sent to the Commons to demand the persons of the impeached members. This officer, after being heard at the bar, was dismissed without any reply; and an answer sent to the King that the accused persons should be forthcoming as soon as any legal charge should be preferred against them. On the afternoon of the next day (Jan 4, 1641-2) the King, attended by his usual guard and some noblemen, visited the House of Commons, and, after leaving his guard at the door, entered the House, and walked up to the speaker. He ascended the steps and told the members he was sorry for the occasion that brought him there, and requested more attention to his commands in future. The speaker on his knees is in the act of making his reply. The gallant Prince Rupert and a group of distinguished Royalists stand on the King's right hand.

DUELING IN ITALY.

A SAD tragedy, illustrating the duelling mania just now prevailing in Italy, is reported from Turin. It appears that amongst the students at the University of Turin, those from the province of Novara had formed a little club, where they were in the habit of meeting and dining together, and keeping up the habits of social intimacy which the connection with a common district generally creates or cements. At one of these club dinners, a short time ago, a question arose between two young men, Viganotti and Albertazzi, as to their respective ages. "Oh, Albertazzi must be as old as the hills; why, he has now been studying law for at least 12 years," was the exclamation of Viganotti. His fellow-student took offence at these words, which, in his opinion, seemed to convey a sneer at his academical progress and position. He asked for an explanation. Viganotti replied that the remark was made in joke; but the strife was not arrested by this explanation. Angry messages were exchanged; Albertazzi insisted that an apology should be made by Viganotti in the presence of all the parties present at the club when the words were uttered. Viganotti refused to do this, the refusal occasioned a challenge, and for this silly squabble these two young men—probably friends and playmates in boyhood—were brought face to face in moral combat. The duel was one *d'assaut*, at 30 paces, each of the antagonists having the right to advance five paces. Both, however, are stated to have fired instantly and simultaneously on the signal being given. Viganotti was shot through the breast by Albertazzi's ball, fell, and expired. The survivor fled across the frontier, and is now at Nice. The duel took place on the ground between the Campo Santo and the River Dora. Thence the corpse was conveyed to the lodgings which Viganotti had occupied in the Via Provvidenza. There it remained until the morning of Friday, when it was removed to the railway station, to be transported to the poor youth's native place. Viganotti's death will be mourned by a widowed mother and an only brother. But this last scene of the tragedy will be best told in the words of the *Gazzetta di Torino*, which thus describes it:—

"Yesterday morning, about ten o'clock, a dense crowd of youths literally swarmed in the church of St. Theresa. They were the students of all the faculties, who thronged in great numbers to take part in the funeral obsequies of their lamented fellow-student Viganotti—a student in the faculty of law, torn from amongst the living by a premature death at the age of 24. [Another account says 21.] It is with regret we are compelled to state that he fell in a duel with another student on the morning of the 23rd of February. The announcement of his death, and the circumstances attending it, keenly affected the students of the university, who resolved on accompanying the corpse to the Porta Susa Station, as the family had decided on having it transported to the native place of the deceased. After leaving St. Theresa, they assembled, in a body, in the Via Provvidenza, and on the arrival of the hearse some of the students placed in it the coffin, and then the sad *cortege* began its march, with the flag of the university covered with crape borne before. There were no priests; but not on that account was the melancholy function less imposing from the numbers who mournfully and in regular rank followed the coffin. There were more than forty students. On reaching the station and setting down the coffin, one, whose name is unfortunately unknown to us, but who, we are informed, is a relative of the deceased, spoke as follows:—'My friends! A circumstance too sad and too deplorable has brought us here together to fulfil one of the most sacred duties devolving on man by the command of nature. Companions, one of our dearest friends is no more. He has been struck down by a premature and cruel death; he has been torn from the affection of his inconsolable mother and his only brother; he has been snatched from the love of his friends and the hopes of his country. He has quitted this for a better life. Let us unanimously, and with our hearts, lay a flower upon his tomb, and express the hope that our unhappy country may reckon amongst her sons many capable of imitating the rare qualities by which our lamented friend was adorned. Receive the last farewell addressed by thy inconsolable friends.' Then the entire body of the students returned in order to the university, where they consigned the mourning flag, and dispersed."

CRIMES AND CASUALTIES.

A FATAL fight is reported from Huddersfield. Daniel Birch-West, a coachman, while drunk, had a quarrel with two men named Marshall and Spencer, and in the course of it he either fell or was knocked down, and died from the injuries he sustained. The two men are in custody, charged with having caused his death.

A CO-OPERATIVE store at Rochdale was broken into a night or two since, and a large number of metal cheques used in the business, representing £250, were stolen. Two men have since been charged before the magistrates with being concerned in the burglary, their detection having arisen from the suspicion caused by their having produced £5 worth of the cheques, which they desired to convert into money. They were remanded.

JAMES CARTER, the young man who stole £100 from his employer a cash-box, and spent it in travelling first-class to Paris, Edinburgh, Liverpool, and to Canada and back, was tried at the Middlesex sessions, and sentenced to five years' penal servitude. The assistant Judge, in passing sentence, remarked that the prisoner had travelled about a good deal, his future travels would be, as his last had been, at some one else's expense.

A SERIOUS Whiteboy offence is reported to have occurred at Derravalla, the residence of a Mr. Kieran, near Killenaule, county Tipperary. An extensive auction of farm stock had just been held, and at night twenty men, with blackened faces, attacked the house, and carried off the arms which it contained and a sum of money. Before leaving one of the gang struck a young lady in the face, injuring her severely.

THE ASSASSINATION OF THE STATION-MASTER IN IRELAND.—An inquest was held on Monday at Mullingar on the body of Mr. Anketell, but no clue was given to the assassin. A verdict of wilful murder was returned. The directors had to remove two officials who had been threatened, and last night two porters on their way home were stopped and scrutinised by a gang of men, but were allowed to proceed without inquiry, one of the gang remarking, "He is not the man."

An accident occurred at Todmorden to the mail train late on Sunday night. The points a little below the station were being repaired, and temporary means had to be adopted to allow the train to pass. When the engine and two or three carriages had passed over the points the fastening gave way, and several carriages were thrown off the rails. One gentleman from Manchester was removed in a fainting state to the Queen's Hotel, but he so far recovered as to be able to return by an early train. A Mrs. Smith suffered most.

MR. ANKETELL, the stationmaster of the Irish Midland Railway assassinated at Mullingar, was buried on Monday in Dublin. The directors and a large number of the company's officials attended the funeral. At the inquest it was deposed that Anketell, when raised after receiving the shot, said he did not know who had fired, but "he forgave the ruffian." The verdict was wilful murder against some person unknown. There was much unwillingness among the townspeople to serve on the coroner's jury.

Two youths, named Jenkins, brothers, have been charged at the Southwark police-court with firing pistols at each other with intent to kill. It seems that they were excited by drink, and had quarrelled. Pistol shots were heard in their room and the police were summoned. On their entering the room they found it full of smoke, and the two brothers struggling on the floor, one with a knife in his hand attempting to stab his brother. Four bullets were afterwards taken from the walls, but neither of the youths was shot. They were both committed for trial.

ON Friday evening, a butcher of Wandsworth, named Townsend, stepped out of a railway carriage at the Wandsworth station before the train had stopped, was thrown down, rolled under the carriages, and was killed. At the inquest one of the witnesses said he was in danger of his life every day at the Wandsworth station. He considered there should be an alteration in the platform, which was too low. On the Metropolitan line the step of the carriages was almost level with the platform, so that it was impossible a person could fall off the platform. The coroner said the platform had nothing to do with the case, as the deceased got out of the train while it was in motion. The Jury returned a verdict of "Accidental death."

SUICIDE BY A PHYSICIAN.—On Saturday afternoon Dr. Diplock, coroner for West Middlesex, held an inquest concerning the death of Arthur Collin Sydenham, at the Mall Tavern, Notting-hill. It appeared from the evidence that the deceased, who was a physician, and resided at 7, High-street, Notting-hill, suffered from disease of the heart, for which he was in the habit of taking opium. On Thursday afternoon, the deceased not having been seen, his room was entered by Elizabeth Brazier, the deceased's housekeeper, and Mr. Jolly, an undertaker. He was then dying, and Dr. Spencer was sent for, but before his arrival deceased expired. A bottle labelled rum was found near deceased containing prussic acid, and the medical evidence showed that death was caused by an overdose of that poison. A small quantity might be used for relief if suffering from disease of the heart or kidneys. A letter was found in the deceased's room in his handwriting showing that suicide was premeditated. The jury returned a verdict of "Self-poisoning whilst in a state of temporary insanity."

THE STORMS ON THE CONTINENT.—The tempest which has lately been raging over the north of Europe has now reached the south. News from Marseilles states that the sea has been so high that all movement of ships became impossible, and that even in the docks the water was extremely rough. Immense quantities of snow have fallen all over the south of Europe, and the telegraphs have been interrupted in many places. The following despatch has arrived, dated Llandeavour, March 2:—"A terrific storm has broken over Mont Cenis. The train from Susa yesterday was blocked up at Grand Croix, and that from France is stopped here. The mails are about to be forwarded by sledges, as the movement of carriages is impossible. Passengers should be warned that all means of conveying merchandise or persons are suspended for the present." The journals of the north-western departments of France are filled with details of disasters caused by the recent storms. At Saint Servan a part of the new quay was carried away by the violence of the waves, and the casino, but recently constructed, was almost totally destroyed. All the vessels in the port had to be lashed to the quays with strong cables. In the Bay of Caneale, the neighbourhood of Le Vivier was inundated by the sea, dykes carried away, and the crops gravely compromised. The damage done near St. Michel is said to be still more considerable.

FATAL ACCIDENT AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE.—On Friday afternoon, last week, shortly before four o'clock, an extraordinary accident, resulting in the death of one woman and slight injury to other persons, occurred in front of Buckingham Palace whilst the carriages were conveying gentlemen from her Majesty's levee. A rider, who is stated to have been Mr. Percy Howard, was riding down the Mall towards the Palace, when his horse suddenly became unmanageable, and darting off at full speed ran full butt at the Palace railings, which are at least 12ft. high, and jumped right through them. The upper portion of the railings, being of a more substantial character than the lower part, remained fixed between the stone pillars situate a short distance on either side, and to this portion the rider fortunately clung, and saved himself with a few bruises; but an unfortunate woman, named Gillane, who had a child in her arms, and was watching for the carriage of which her husband was coachman, was knocked down and

fataly injured. She died a few minutes after admission to St. George's Hospital, where she was taken by the police. Her child sustained some slight bruises. The horse fell down inside the railings, but it is said it escaped with a broken knee. The unfortunate occurrence caused great consternation amongst the spectators congregated on account of the levee.

RATTENING IN SHEFFIELD.—A diabolical attempt has been made to blow up a non-unionist at Sheffield, the means used being very similar to those which were adopted in the celebrated New Hersford-street outrage. The attempted outrage implicates the saw trade. About one o'clock on Saturday morning the inmates of a house inhabited by a man named Martin, were awakened by hearing a crash against the garret window, followed immediately afterwards by a still louder crash on the pavement beneath. On getting up to discover what was the cause of this, it was found that something had been thrown against the garret window, that one of the panes had been broken, but that, owing to the missile, whatever it was, having struck the woodwork, it had been prevented from coming into the room. A policeman who happened to be passing shortly afterwards discovered on the pavement a broken stone bottle, and the contents, which consisted of powder, steel filings, and steel scraps, were scattered around. The bottle was securely corked, and the cork had a hole cut through it, as if a fuse had been passed through. It is somewhat singular that a chalk mark was placed near Martin's door, and that a similar mark was put on the pavement opposite. Had the bottle got into the room, and the contents exploded, the persons who would have been hurt were an old woman, who is an invalid, and two little children.

HORRIBLE MURDER NEAR MAIDSTONE.—Early on Sunday morning great consternation was created in the district of Maidstone, consequent on a rumour that a deliberate murder had been perpetrated in its vicinity. It appears that shortly after twelve o'clock two lads were proceeding along the Ashford-road, and when near the wall enclosing the park of Mr. J. Whatman, M.P., they discovered the body of a man, bleeding from the face, with a bundle close to him. They proceeded to give an alarm at Turkey Mill, within a few yards of the spot, and a man named Tovey returned with them. They then discovered that the bundle had been taken away. Information was at once given to the police, and upon the arrival of Inspector Hills he had the body conveyed to the Artichoke Inn. Mr. G. H. Furber, surgeon, arrived shortly afterwards, and pronounced life to be extinct. Upon an examination of the body he found that the deceased had been shot through the mouth in an upward direction. Several teeth were knocked out. Shortly afterwards the body was recognised as that of a young man named John Phinn, tailor, residing with his father at Weaverling-street, about a mile from Maidstone, whither he was proceeding when he was murdered. About one o'clock a portion of the contents of the missing bundle were found about half a mile from the place where the deed was committed. If robbery was the motive which prompted the crime, the perpetrators were disappointed, as the young man's watch and purse and its contents were upon the body. During the day thousands of the inhabitants visited the spot.

MEDICAL RELIEF TO THE POOR.—Mr. Richards has held an inquest at the Bridge House Tavern, Whitmore-road, Hoxton, respecting the death of Frederick Jones Wilkins, aged nine months. The deceased was the son of a labourer, living at 11, Cannon-terrace, Hoxton. Mrs. Wilkins, the mother, deposed that her husband had been out of work for three months. On Saturday, the 20th ult., she applied at the relieving-office, Hoxton, for an order for her child, who was sick. She asked for a medical order for the doctor. The relieving officer said, "You can get no order, for the child's father is not with you." She applied twice for an order, but was refused on each occasion. Her husband could not come for he was out looking for work. Mr. John Hutchinson said he was relieving officer. He did not recollect any application being made to him by the mother of the child. When the husband is at work medical orders are never given. Mr. G. B. Phillips, house surgeon, deposed that the deceased had died from inflammation of the lungs, which had produced convulsions. The child was suffering from whooping cough previous to the inflammation of the lungs. It was just such a case where medical care at the earlier stages might have saved life. The jury returned a verdict "That the deceased died from inflammation of the lungs, and that they do not desire to publicly censure the relieving officer, but they request the coroner to write to the board of guardians acquainting them with what has occurred, and to state that they (the jury) wish the case to be inquired into."

THE ATTACK BY CHINESE ON THE CREW OF THE COCKCHAFER.—The following details of the occurrence are given by the *China Mail*:—"It appears that the boats of her Majesty's gun-boat Cockchafer were exercising in a creek about four miles beyond Swatow, when their crew were stoned by some natives, the missiles striking several of the men. The latter landed and caught one of the assailants, whom they detained with the intention of handing him over to the native authorities and retreated to their boats. A large mob of Chinese, however—some 400 or 500—suddenly made their appearance from the village in the neighbourhood, and being well armed with gingalls, opened a galling fire on the boats' crews. The latter returned the fire with their Snider rifles, but were obliged to retreat, 12 of their number being wounded, and two, the boatswain and gunner not being expected to live. The loss on the Chinese side is said to be 14 killed and several wounded. From private information we learn that the mob who first began the attack was composed partly of men and partly of boys, as most gatherings are, especially in China. Almost every man in the Cockchafer's boats was wounded more or less severely; and even the man who brought the despatches on board the Kwang-tung, although on duty, had his arm in a sling. The gunner and boatswain are rather dangerously hit—one having been shot through the upper part of the body (back and breast), and the other in the shoulder, the ball having lodged in the chest. In the latter case the bullet is unfortunately so far from the reach of the surgeon's probe, that fears are entertained of the possibility of its being removed; and if, as is generally the case, the ball be an iron one, very serious consequences may result. All the wounded men are in the hospital, and are being carefully attended to by Dr. Scott. The gunner, who is a good marksman, is said to have fired no less than 400 rounds of Snider ammunition before he was hit—so that the estimate of the loss on the part of the rascally natives may probably be made under the mark. The gallant commander (Lieutenant Kerr) was of course exposed to the fire as much as any of his men; but it is satisfactory to know that he is unhurt. He had at least two very narrow escapes for his life; one bullet, passing over his head, grazed or went through his cap, and another found a lodgement in the breast of his coat."

ANOTHER DREADFUL MURDER AT POPLAR.—Another double murder has been committed at Poplar. A Mrs. Browne and her daughter kept a confectioner's shop in the High-street, and were both seen in the shop on Tuesday night last week. On the Wednesday the shop was never opened, and as it still remained closed on Thursday, and nothing had been seen of the Brownes, the neighbours broke a window at the back and entered the house. On the floor of the parlour they found the body of Mrs. Browne with her throat cut in a frightful manner, and her daughter was found in bed with her head nearly severed from her body. It appears that Mrs. Browne and her daughter were at the time of the murder the only occupants of the house, but that an engineer named Bradshaw had been previously lodging with them for a considerable time, and had only left a fortnight since. In the course of the day the police heard that an engineer answering the description of Bradshaw had committed suicide by cutting his

throat on the Wednesday morning at a house in Bow. A person who knew Bradshaw well accompanied the police to this house, and immediately identified the body. His clothes bore stains and traces of blood, which it is stated could not have resulted from the injuries he inflicted on himself. The inquests into the murder of Mrs. and Miss Browne, at Poplar, and the suicide of their supposed murderer, Bradshaw, were opened on Monday, but no fact was elicited which suggested any motive for the crime. Miss Browne is said to have been noted as the prettiest girl in Poplar, and "her beauty was so famous that women as well as men went to the shop to see her." She was a well-conducted young woman. Bradshaw appears to have been a man of indifferent character, and had recently persuaded a young woman to leave her situation and live with him under a promise of marriage. She had brought with her £70, and on this money they appear to have been living, for only £10 was left at the time of his death, and the girl had been pressing him to go to work. Bradshaw's brother stated at the inquest that his mother died in a lunatic asylum at Wakefield, and he had heard that an aunt of his was a confirmed lunatic. Bradshaw, he had heard, was a violent man, of a high degree of irritability. The jury in this case returned a verdict of *debet*; the inquest relative to the deaths of Mrs. and Miss Browne was adjourned.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL.

AMERICA.

PHILADELPHIA, Thursday. President Grant has this day been installed and taken possession of his office. In his inaugural address he says that he commences his duties perfectly untrammelled; that he will veto bills when he believes it to be necessary; that he will have a policy to recommend, but none to enforce against the people's will. He strongly supports payment of the United States' debt in gold and the early resumption of specie payments. He also says that no repudiator should hold any public office; he advocates a system of economy and retrenchment, and insists upon the duty of honesty in all public officers. He thinks the Public Debt can be paid off within 25 years. He also supports the adoption of the Negro Suffrage Amendment, but says nothing about the Alabama controversy, nor about Cuba.

J. G. Blaine has been elected Speaker of the House of Representatives.

WASHINGTON, March 4.

Mr. Johnson has issued a valedictory proclamation on retiring from office. He defends his administration, and states that the motives by which he has been actuated during his term of office have been those of honesty and sincerity.

The fortieth Congress adjourned at 3 o'clock to-day *sine die*.

The new Congress then assembled. Mr. James Blaine, the Republican candidate, was elected Speaker of the House of Representatives.

March 8.

President Grant has requested Congress to repeal the old law prohibiting Treasury officers from engaging in trade, as it disqualified Mr. Stewart from accepting the post of Secretary to the Treasury.

Mr. Sumner objected in the Senate to the hasty repeal of the law without deliberation.

Mr. Stewart has consequently tendered his resignation.

SPAIN.

MADRID, March 2.

A meeting of the majority of the Cortes last night appointed a Commission of 15 members to prepare a draught of the Constitution, defining first the rights and liberties of citizens, the new form of Government, and the person of the monarch. The principal members of the Commission are Olzaga, Rios, Armijo, Ulloa, Montero, &c.

March 7.

The Government received a telegram from General Dulce, Captain-General of Cuba, last night, setting forth that the districts of Cardenas and Colon have been rid of insurgents and that order would be restored there in the course of a few days. At Cienfuegos and Villa Clara several chiefs of the insurgents have been shot by order of court-martial; others, however, have succeeded in escaping. In Madrid last night the barracks of the former Royal Guard were maliciously set on fire. Several soldiers were injured.

PRUSSIA.

BERLIN, March 6, evening.

The Ministry closed the Session of the Prussian Diet to-day by order of the King. The Speech from the Throne read on the occasion says that the Government has acquired the conviction that in drawing the balance between opposite but equally well-grounded opinions is to be found the true source of the constitutional development of Parliamentary life. The Government conveys its thanks to the Diet for its approval of the budget, and promises to bear in mind the necessity for the exercise of economy in order to restore the balance between the revenue and the expenditure. The speech also expresses thanks for the adoption of the Bill relative to the financial arrangements with the city of Frankfurt; and, after mentioning the stimulus that has been given to improvements in the administration of justice and the reforms effected in the laws concerning the different provinces of the kingdom, it concludes with a promise that next session fresh measures will be submitted to the Diet relative to the system of education and the communal and district constitutions.

INDIA.

BOMBAY, March 2.

The General Post Office has been totally destroyed by fire. It is believed that the interview between the Viceroy and Shere Ali will be held at Umballa on the 25th inst.

CHINA.

HONGKONG, Jan. 26.

Mr. Hart announces that the Chinese Government intends to appropriate all the tonnage dues, averaging 300,000 taels annually towards improving the navigable waters of the country.

Nicholson's dock has been completed at Shanghai.

An unsuccessful attempt has been made to rob the powder magazine.

Jan. 28 (via Brindisi)

The force sent to punish the inhabitants of the villages near Swatow, for the outrage on the crew of Her Majesty's ship Grasshopper, comprised Her Majesty's ships Icarus, Rinaldo, and three gunboats, under the command of Commodore Oliver Jones.

WISDOM, WIT, & HUMOUR.

HUMOROUS AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENT.—A machine for cutting chaff.

To dispel darkness from about you—make light of your troubles.

Why is natural politeness like flour? Because it is in bread (inbred).

A BOARDING-SCHOOL miss, being unwell, deemed it vulgar to say that she was "Billious," so she complained of being "Williamous."

THERE are two periods in the life of man at which he is too wise to tell woman the exact truth—When he is in love, and when he isn't.

GEOGRAPHICAL.—"John, where is Africa?" "On the map, sir." "I mean on what continent—the eastern or western continent?"

"Well, the land of Africa is in the eastern continent, but the people are all of 'em down south." "How do the African people live?"

"By drawing." "Drawing what—water?"

"No, sir, by drawing their breath." "Sit down, John."

"Thomas, what is the equator?"

"Why, sir, it is a horizontal pole running perpendicularly through the imagination of astro nomers and old geographers."

"Go to your seat, Thomas." "William Stiggs, what do you mean by an eclipse?" "An old racehorse, sir."

"Science." "Jack, you are a scholar, what is an eclipse?"

An eclipse is a thing as appears when the moon gets on a burst, and runs against the sun; consequently the sun blacks the moon's face."

Schoolmaster looks like thunder. Class dismissed.

WHY was the giant Goliath very much astonished when David hit him with the stone?—Such a thing had never entered his head before.

If you were to ride upon a donkey, what fruit would you resemble?—A pear (pair).

The higher an ass holds his head the plainer we can see his ears.

ARITHMETICAL.—If two apples make a pair, how many pears will eight apples make?

"HUSBAND, I can't express my detestation of your conduct."—"Well, my dear, I'm very glad you can't."

A LADY of "forty," who buried her fifth husband recently, says she "hopes that he is out of his misery."

WHILE most persons are in advance of their age, an old maid generally manages to keep ten years behind."

IF brooks are, as poets call them, the most joyous things in nature, what are they always "murmuring" about?

A SHOPKEEPER purchased of an Irishwoman a quantity of butter, the lumps of which, intended for pounds, he weighed in the balance and found wanting. "Sure, it's yer own fault if they are light," said Biddy in reply to the complaints of the buyer, "it's yer own fault, sir, for wasn't it with a pound of yer own soap I bought here that I weighed them."

"Did any of you ever see an elephant's skin?" asked the master of an infant-school in a fast neighbourhood. "I have!" shouted a six-year-old at the foot of the class. "Where?" inquired the old man, amused by his earnestness. "On an elephant," was the reply.

WHO WAS JESSE?—A dominie, examining his scholars on the Bible lesson, asked a young urchin the question, "Who was Jesse?" Without hesitation the boy answered, "The flower o' Dumblane, Sir."

SEA-SICKNESS.—A clergyman, who went in a Pacific steamer, and was sea-sick, thus describes his sensation:—The first hour I felt as if I wanted to go ashore; the second hour I felt as if I should die; the third hour I didn't care whether I died or not; the fourth hour I was afraid I shouldn't die."

CUTTING OPEN A PENNY.—"Won't you cut open a penny for me, father?" said a little girl, when she came home from school one day. "Cut open a penny! what do you want me to do that for?" asked her father, "Cause," said the little girl, "our teacher says that in every penny there are four farthings, and I want to see them."

SKEWERING THE STARS.—A gentleman of the Temple received his laundress's bill made out in the style of spelling and handwriting peculiar to that class; but there was one item of 1s. 6d. which defied even his practised comprehension. It was for "skewering the stars." After wondering for some time how such a work could ever have been performed, and still more why it should have been executed, particularly at his expense, the debtor sent for Mrs. Pearlash, when the reading turned out to be for "scouring the stars."

THE best head-quarters—Brains.

WHEN does a ship tell a falsehood?—When she lies at the wharf.

WHY is a pawnbroker like a drunkard? Because he takes the pledge, but cannot always keep it.

THE END OF EVERYTHING.—The letter G.

THE CATTLE PLAGUE.—A bull in a china shop.

WOOGING IN POETRY.—An old gentleman of the name of Page finding a young lady's glove at a watering-place, presented it to her with the following words:—

"If from your glove you take the letter G.
Your glove is love, which I devote to thee."

To which the lady returned the following answer:—

"If from your Page you take the letter P,
Your Page is age, and that won't do for me."

THE BEST JUDGE.—A lady said to her husband, in Jerrold's presence: "My dear, you certainly want some new trousers." "No, I think not," replied the husband. "Well," Jerrold interposed, "I think the lady who wears them ought to know."

A NEW YORK editor says: "To be a woman of fashion is one of the easiest things in the world. A late writer thus describes it: Buy everything you don't want and pay for nothing you get; sail on all mankind but your husband; be happy everywhere but at home; neglect your children, and nurse lapdogs; go to church every time you get a new dress."

THERE is a person employed on a certain railway who brags of having a watch that keeps correct time. He was heard to remark a few mornings since, upon pulling out his watch, "If the sun ain't over the hill in a minute and a half, he will be late."

A COXCOMB talking of the transmigration of souls, said "In the time of Moses, I have no doubt I was the golden calf." "Very likely," replied a lady, "time has robbed you of nothing but the gilding."

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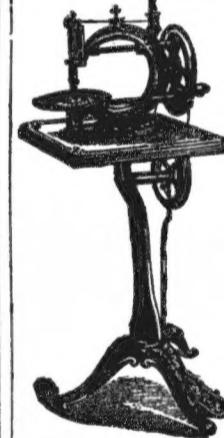
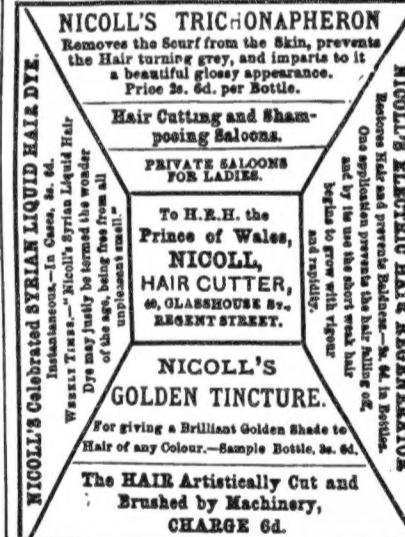
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Printed for the Proprietor, by JUDD and GLASS. Phoenix Works, St. Andrew's Hill, Doctors' Commons; and Published for the Proprietor by E. GARRIFFE, at the Office, 13, Catherine-street, Strand.—Saturday, March 13, 1869.